NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF BRIDGELAND

NOVEMBER 2020

An Independent Publication Serving the Bridgeland® Community

Volume 14, Issue 11

### BRIDGELAND VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION FESTIVAL PARK NOVEMBER 8, 2020 16830 APPLE RIVER DR. 2:00 - 5:00 PM

### BAND 3:00 - 5:00 PM

Join all your friends and neighbors as we come together to celebrate those that have given so much for our freedom - our Veterans. We will have a "Veterans Memorial", Live Performance from Commercial Art, Children's Bike Parade, Children's Games, Singing Contest, Patriotic Music, Bridgeland's Patriotic Photo Contest and a Sidewalk Chalk Drawing Contest. To register and enter any of these contests please email by teransday 2020@gmail.com.

Please send us a photo and information on the service men and women in your life you would like to honor. No need to send a photo again, if you have done so in the past. Send the information to <u>bveteransday2020@gmail.com</u>. We will post your photo information on our Honor Wall.

Do you have a Custom Car, Antíque, Muscle Car, or Motorcycle? Vísít bveteransday2020@gmail.com to register it for the car display.

Ceremony Honoring our Veterans with Roll Call at 2:30pm at Festival Park located at 16830 Apple River Dr. (near Lakeland Activity Center) Please Attend!

\*Due to the current pandemic, we encourage all attendees to not gather in groups larger than 10. We will be practicing social distancing, offering sanitization stations and encourage all attendees to wear their masks\*

### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

#### **BRIDGELAND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS (HOA)**

16902 Bridgeland Landing Cypress, TX 77433 281-304-1318

#### Community Manager

Melissa Hargrove ...... melissa.hargrove@inframark.com

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

#### **Activities Director**

Rachel Johnson ......rachel.johnson@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

#### **EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

EMERGENCY		
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Ambulance		
Harris County Sheriff	713-221-3300	
AREA HOSPITALS		
Cy-Fair Medical Center	281-897-3300	
North Cypress Medical Center		
Willowbrook Methodist		
Memorial Hermann Cypress		
SCHOOLS		
Cy-Fair ISD		
Pope Elementary School		
Robison Elementary School		
Warner Elementary School		
Wells Elementary School		
Spillane Middle School		
Smith Middle School		
Cy Woods High School		
Cy Fair High School		
Cy Ranch High School		
Bridgeland High School		

#### UTILITIES

Trash - Republic Waste	281-446-2030
Water and Sewer	713-371-1400
Gas - Centerpoint Energy	713-659-2111
Electricity - Reliant Energy	800-735-42568
Cable/Internet/Phone - Comcast	713-341-1000
Cable/Internet/Phone - AT&T	855-293-7676

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Harris County Tax	

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#### 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 *bridgeland@peelinc.com*. 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!



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### In Fairfield, We Give Back

by Janet Guthrie

Volunteering in Cypress has become a way of life for many of us. Although we have wrestled with the effects of hurricanes, flooding, and 2020's COVID Pandemic, we recognize that in other ways, we are "living the dream" and are eager to share our time and talent with others.

One of our local groups, the Traveling Seniors of Cypress, chose to share and promote the spirit of Christmas, by volunteering at The Brookwood Community. In addition to finding a sense of accomplishment, the opportunity for personal growth, and a chance to form meaningful relationships, they had the chance to learn more about what volunteering means to the greater good.

There are approximately 30 million adults with disabilities in the United States, eight million of whom need full or partial care for life. The Brookwood Community was established to provide adults with special needs life-long educational and work opportunities, enabling them to contribute to themselves and their world.

The Brookwood Community is a nonprofit organization 30 minutes west of Houston, which offers residential and day employment opportunities and provides meaningful purpose in the lives of over 250 adults with disabilities in a God-centered educational, vocational and residential community.

During September, October, and November, the TSC will have helped to transplant 54,000 poinsettias. Once these plants reached a certain age, the Traveling Seniors of Cypress helped ring them to ensure steady, vigorous growth. TSC volunteers have also worked in the warehouse, priced Christmas ornaments, and worked in the Garden Center to sell poinsettias.

During November, Brookwood will begin to pull plants, sleeve, load, and then deliver them. If you are interested in volunteering, there are many other campus areas that they could use your help daily.

Their Woodlands Holiday Store will be open Tuesday – Saturday, October 16 – December 23 . Volunteers are needed each day for their Holiday Retail Store located in Hughes Landing Shopping Center at 2025 Hughes Landing Blvd, in The Woodlands.

In Brookshire, The Gift and Garden Center is open Monday through Saturday from 9:00 am—4:30 pm, and the Brookwood Cafe is open from 11:00 am—2:00 pm through December 23. In November, they will begin packaging, loading, and shipping all of their plants. Help is needed daily during this time period.

For more information, you can contact Karen Pollard at 281.375.2100 or karenp@brookwoodcommunity.org. Go on line to signup at https://signup.com/go/VonBVZd.

## Cy-Fair Helping Hands Keeps Vision to Serve

By Patricia Hudson



When Jean and John Dreyer founded Cy-Fair Helping Hands in 2010, their vision was to help the homeless become selfsufficient. Many families in the community were also struggling with food insecurity. Today, this all-volunteer ministry has grown from a husband and wife team to more than 50 volunteers, and is serving thousands in the Cy-Fair community monthly.

Jean Dreyer, Executive Director of Homeless Initiatives, and Patricia Hudson, Executive Director of Community Outreach, oversee multiple programs designed to serve the homeless and those living below the poverty level. Seven months into the Coronavirus pandemic, many have experienced loss of income, are desperate to feed their families and are seeking emergency shelter. Assisting the homeless and impoverished by regularly providing food, basic needs, guidance, and a safe place continues to fuel the passion for serving at CFHH.

#### **Homeless Initiatives**

The Homeless Initiatives Emergency Shelter program provides shelter for families with children, homeless teens, and disabled individuals. Homeless Outreach Teams meet and build relationships with more than 50 homeless weekly. Prior to the pandemic, Fellowship Wednesdays offered health checks, document recovery, fellowship, worship, and a hot meal.

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The vision continues to provide a day center for the homeless. Homeless teens are provided quick meals in all CFISD high schools; Upward Progress pays class fees, dual credit, graduation and extracurricular expenses. Scholarships are awarded to CFISD homeless graduates; two are studying at Lone Star College, one to become a firefighter, and the other, a nurse. A third is at Texas A&M studying chemical or biomedical engineering.



**Cards of Hope,** \$50 WalMart gift cards, are currently being collected for the holidays for homeless teens and their siblings. With the help of our community partners, 550 cards were gifted last year.

**Compassion Bags** for homeless clients are needed. (www. cyfairhelpinghands.org)

#### **Community Outreach**

The **Community Pantry** provides non-perishables and fresh food. A drive-thru food distribution ensures that volunteers and clients follow CDC guidelines. Volunteers register clients electronically, clients remain in their cars, and trunks are loaded with boxes of food and toiletries. Since March 17, 2020, we have fed nearly 20,000 individuals, and have distributed more than 75,000 pounds of food donated through the Houston Food Bank, and thousands more through community supporters. Our **Community Garden** supplements the pantry by providing fresh produce from 34 raised beds. This year, volunteers have harvested a ton of produce.

With the help of the community, Backpacks filled with school supplies were distributed to CFISD students, and to first year college students. Working with Owens and Hairgrove Elementary, and CFISD Children's Youth Services workers, (CYS), we were able to put backpacks into the hands of over 2,300 students in need across the district. To put this into perspective, 1,000 backpacks were distributed in 2019, and 450 in 2018.



**Thanksgiving Blessings Boxes** - complete holiday meals, together with \$20 -\$25 WalMart gift cards to purchase turkeys or hams. We anticipate providing approximately 620 boxes this year. Families, communities, businesses, organizations, schools and churches are encouraged to join us in sharing Thanksgiving blessings through food drives. (CFHH Facebook page)

Volunteers Needed CFHH is in need of individuals that have



a heart for serving those struggling to make ends meet, as well as for the homeless in our community, and are willing to commit to volunteering on a weekly basis. Volunteers are needed for pantry and drive-thru food distribution, English/Vietnamese

and English/Spanish volunteers to assist in registering clients on Mondays, Thursdays, 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 8:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. commitment. Weekly pick-ups from community groceries, assistance with communications, clerical, case management fund-raising, and funding for purchasing land and facilities are needed.

Cy-Fair Helping Hands is located at 7520 Cherry Park Drive, Suite B, Houston, TX 77095. To donate: www. cyfairhelpinghands.org or mail to: 7710 Cherry Park Drive, #T-385, Houston, Tx. 77095

For Homeless Initiatives: jean@cyfairhelpinghands.org and for Community Outreach: phudson@cyfairhelpinghands.org.



Unlike last year, Cy-Fair Helping Hands will not be sponsoring a canned goods drive, hold a silent auction, or have an end of the event celebration. Instead, every weekend, NOW through December 31st, it will be partnering with community eateries

to raise awareness and funds in a unique way. Spearheaded by Metta's Local Eats Dine Out for Charity, CFHH is asking that when you plan to eat out, you consider dining at participating LOCAL Cypress and surrounding Restaurants who are partnering with Metta's Local Eats Dine Out for Charity to put food in the stomachs and on the tables of the hungry and homeless.

#### Here is how it works:

Make sure to join Metta's Local Eats Facebook page so you'll always have the current list of the newest partners! As you are out and about, please patronize the participating restaurants and order the Metta's

Local Eats Dine Out for Charity appetizer, entre, or drink special. Remember to let them know that you are there to support CFHH! And SHARE! SHARE! SHARE with everyone on your email list!

**KEEP YOUR RECEIPT!** MLE will offer exciting random giveaways just by supporting local and eating out! One qualifying item from the list below of Participating Restaurants MUST be ordered. Numbers in (\$) reflect the amount donated to Cy-Fair Helping Hands.

Andy's Kitchen – Turkey burger basket \$12.00 (\$5)

Helping the hungry and HOMELESS

Nyam Nyam Café – ask for the Helping Hands Crepe Combo of ANY Sweet Crepe and MettaMosa (\$2)

2 Guys 1 Pit BBQ Restaurant – Sweet and savory Burnt Ends (\$1)

Adriatic Cafe Italian Grill – Margarita Chicken (\$3.20)

Alchemy Bake Lab – Texas Caramel Pecan Tart (\$1)

Ambriza Cypress (Boardwalk) & Ambriza Vintage Park– Calamari (\$1) & the Chile's in Nogada (\$2)

The Backyard Grill – Bar B Gooey (\$2) Queso loaded with pulled pork

Captain Brad's Coastal Kitchen – Boudin Egg Rolls w/Crawfish Queso (\$1)

Charlie D's Pizza – Family Value Deal (\$5)

Creekwood Grill – Pretzels and Beer Cheese dipping sauce (\$1)

Duck n Bao Cypress – Pork or Chicken Soup Dumplings

(\$1)

Giannina's Pizza & Catering – Signature oven-fired Giannina's Pizza (prosciutto, fresh tomato & arugula) (\$2)

Land of a Thousand Hills Coffee & Bakery - Cypress, TX - ANY Croissant (1) qualifies

Pho Houston Copperfield - ANY Sandwich (\$1)

Rockwell Grill – Soft Pretzels (\$4) w/choice of dipping sauce Sizzle & Brew – Boudin Ball Side (\$1) and/or the Hawaiian Mimosa (\$1)

VIVA Restaurant – Any Sandwich (\$1)



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# This Holiday, Keep Family Stories Alive

by Jackie Devine



When you and your relatives gather to celebrate family, Thanksgiving and the Christmas holidays are the perfect times to capture memories and start creating a legacy that can be handed down for generations to come. But time is of the essence. Our mothers and fathers, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins leave us too soon. Pull out your phone,

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place it on video, and start asking questions. If you need a list of questions, email me at jackiedevine@peelinc.com. I will send you a list of questions to ask your family and friends. I'll wager you will be surprised by the answers.

Please don't wait until it is too late like I did. Capture your family folklore before your living vault of information has disappeared.

To recreate my Grandmother's story, I had to interview scores of cousins I had not seen in decades. That was helpful, but I knew theirs wasn't the whole story. After researching the national archives, I stumbled upon long lost kin I had never met, and precious photos I had not seen. As a result, I created a priceless mini-biography of my Grandmother, which included family photos, memories, conversations she had with me over the years, and various precious documents. It remains available on the web for family members all over the world to retrieve.

For the last few years, several organizations have encouraged families to listen to one another and record family history. Two excellent organizations include:

**StoryCorps,** for example, launched The National Day of Listening. StoryCorps encourages everyone to ask elder family members to tell stories at the Thanksgiving dinner table—memories that provoke more memories and stories. It's a beautiful way to connect older generations with newer ones and create a shared family tradition.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, StoryCorps Connect offers a first-of-its-kind platform that enables you to record a StoryCorps interview with a loved one remotely using video conference technology. The audio and a still photo from each interview goes into their archive at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

**StoryWorth,** located at https://welcome.storyworth.com, is another option that allows you to preserve your memories, connect your family, and learn about relatives in a new and exciting way. Once a week, they email your mother, dad, or grandparents a question, possibly about subjects you have never thought to ask. All they do is reply with a story that is shared with you each week. At the end of the year, the stories are compiled and bound into a beautiful keepsake book.

Please don't let another holiday pass without preserving your family's stories and life-lessons for future generations. When they are gone, their stories have vanished.

If you are not comfortable working with national firms and prefer something up close and personal, I will help you gather and compile your family's history. Contact me at jackiedevine@peelinc.com, and let me know that you are interested in taking a memoir writing class. If we have enough interest, I will make myself available free of charge for a 6-week memoir writing class in our community.

## **NEW TOMBALL RESIDENTS**

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center



A pair of beautiful bald eagles are now calling Tomball, Texas, home and they've become quite the attraction. People are coming from miles around just to get a glimpse of them and to snap a photo. Should you decide to come and take a look, remember to keep your distance and do not disturb the birds in any way.

Bald eagles are protected by multiple federal laws that include the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the Lacey Act as well as other state and municipal protections that may be in place. The Eagle Act was originally passed in 1940 and was amended in 1972, increasing civil penalties. The Act provides criminal penalties for persons who \"take, possess, sell, purchase, barter, offer to sell, purchase or barter, transport, export or import, at any time or any manner, any bald eagle ... [or any golden eagle], alive or dead, or any part\*, nest, or egg thereof.\" The Act defines \"take\" as \"pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, molest or disturb.\"

\"Disturb\" means: "to agitate or bother a bald or golden eagle to a degree that causes, or is likely to cause, based on the best scientific information available, 1) injury to an eagle, 2) a decrease in its productivity, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior, or 3) nest abandonment, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior.\"

Here are some interesting facts about Bald Eagles:

- They have been our national symbol since 1782.
- They are almost always found near water.

• They live to be between 20 and 30 years old. The oldest recorded bald eagle was 38.

- Their wingspan is between 6 feet and 7.5 feet.
- Females are larger than males.
- They can see 4 to 7 times better than humans.
- They can see fish up to a mile away.

• They mate for life but should one of the pair die, the other will find another mate.

• They return to the same nest every year. They will make repairs and add additional twigs, grass, etc. each year. The nests average 2-4 feet deep

and 4-5 feet wide. The largest nest on record weighed 2 tons!

• The female lays 1 to 3 eggs and both the male and female take turns sitting on the eggs. The first egg will hatch after 35 days of incubation. The next egg will hatch several days later.

- Sometimes the first eaglet to hatch will kill the younger one(s).
- By 3 weeks of age, the feet and beaks are nearly as large as an adult.
- Eaglets fledge between 8 and 14 weeks of age.

• It's not until 3 years of age that the head and tail begin to turn white. In the 4th year, the eagle gets its white head, tail and upper and undertail coverts.

• Eagles can swim—sort of. If they swoop down for a fish and it's too heavy, they will paddle to shore.

TWRC Wildlife Center asks that you respect all wildlife. With regard to the Tomball eagles, keep your distance, view with binoculars, keep the noise level down and report anyone harassing them or getting too close. They could be breaking a federal law.

www.twrcwildlifecenter.org

713-468-TWRC



## National Night Out

National Night Out's celebration was a little different this year, but just as effective in reaching out to people maintaining safe and strong neighborhoods.

Constable Mark Herman's Office participated in the 2020 National Night Out in the communities we serve. National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer and more caring places to live.

National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement, while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances and allows each to learn more about each other.

The men and women of your Precinct 4 Constable's Office love the communities we serve! Attached are pictures from this year's National Night Out events across Precinct 4. Thank you to all our citizens and deputies for making National Night Out a successful event!

Follow us at Facebook.com/precinct4 to receive live feeds on crime and arrests in your area.

National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community.



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Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. The state of Texas and select areas celebrate the first Tuesday in October. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are strongly recommending that all National Night Out 2020 areas celebrate on October 6th, the first Tuesday in October.



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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.

• 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?

First day of class: September 17, 2020

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



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