

THE TIMES



Cy-Fair ISD & Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS): A Winning Combination

VIPS is an acronym for Volunteers in Public Schools. VIPS in Cy-Fair ISD center the attention of their service on supporting students and staff and making a significant contribution to the education of children. These dedicated individuals, who give freely of their time and resources, impact the academic and personal development of Cy-Fair students. Cypress-Fairbanks ISD is fortunate to be able to draw from a diversity of skills and knowledge in its community.

The district VIPS Executive Board spearheads the business of the VIPS. This board is comprised of volunteers elected to take on specific responsibilities offering support, guidance, and training to all volunteers in the district. The VIPS Executive Board meets monthly to evaluate and address the needs of the district and distribute information relating to volunteer and community activities and strengthen parental involvement in education.

If you are interested in becoming part of the winning combination at Cy-Fair schools as a volunteer, and making a difference, or would like more information, please contact Pam Scott, Partners in Education Director at 281-894-3950.

Cy-Fair ISD & Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS): A Winning Combination October 2008 Upcoming Events

Oct. 1 - Math Training
9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Berry Center
Participants will have an opportunity to review the first semester curriculum in grades 1-5, use some of the technology applications available to teachers and students, learn more

about the 4-step problem solving process, and explore some of the components of Singapore Math being used with students in elementary math.

Oct. 7 - Junior Achievement Coordinator Training
9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Berry Center
Specifically for those who will take responsibility for implementing the JA program for their campus.

Oct. 7 - Junior Achievement Volunteer Training
9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Berry Center
The purpose of Junior Achievement is to educate and inspire young people to value free enterprise, understand business and economics, and be workforce ready.

Oct. 9 - Sooper Puppy Training
9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Berry Center
Sooper Puppy is a first grade class series dealing with life lessons, facing dilemmas and arriving at solutions by making good choices.

Oct. 15 - Hearing Certification Training
9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Berry Center
Become a State certified trained volunteer to assist your CFISD school in hearing testing for the students. Please RSVP to your school nurse by October 10.

Oct. 16 - Vision Certification Training
9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Berry Center
Become a State certified trained volunteer to assist your CFISD school in vision testing for the students. Please RSVP to your school nurse by October 10.

(Continued on Page 6)

Event Calendar

October 13th 9:30 am
MONDAY MORNING
WALKING CLUB

October 17th 7:00 pm
FIRST LADIES OF
BRIDGELAND

October 18th 8:30 am-5:30 pm
WOMEN'S RETREAT AT
BRIDGELAND

October 20th 9:30 am
MONDAY MORNING
WALKING CLUB

October 21st 10:00 am
MOMMY & ME GROUP

October 25th 11:00 am- 1:00 pm
FALL FESTIVAL

October 27th 9:30 am
MONDAY MORNING
WALKING CLUB

Don't want to wait for the mail?

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of The Times on the
1st day of each month at
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IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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Fire.....	911
Ambulance.....	911
Harris County Sheriff.....	713-221-3300
Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Dept.....	281-550-6663

AREA HOSPITALS

Cy-Fair Medical Center.....	281-897-3300
North Cypress Medical Center.....	281-477-0830
Willowbrook Methodist.....	281-477-1000

SCHOOLS

Cy-Fair ISD.....	281-897-4000
Cy-Fair ISD.....	281-897-4000
Robison Elementary School.....	281-213-1700
Spillane Middle School.....	281-213-1645
Cy Woods High School.....	281-213-1727
Cy Fair High School.....	281-897-4600

UTILITIES

Trash - Republic Waste.....	281-446-2030
Water and Sewer.....	800-579-4500
Gas-Centerpoint Energy.....	800-579-4500
Electricity - Reliant Energy.....	800-735-42568

PUBLIC SERVICES

Cypress Post Office.....	281-373-9125
Drivers License Info.....	281-955-1100
Harris County Tax.....	713-224-1919

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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 articles@peelinc.com. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, special celebrations, birthday announcements and military service are also welcome.

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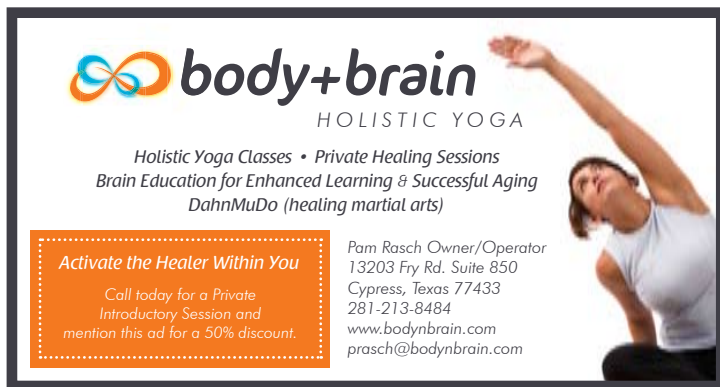
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Creating Strong Vibrant Communities

It's a fact of our global economy that consumers are drawn to the Internet because of convenience. But as residents of NW Houston and in the wake of Ike, we may need to remind ourselves why it is important to "Think Local Business First."

1. Local businesses are often collectively our largest local employer. The largest growth of jobs is from small business owners.
2. When one dollar is spent at a local business, economists indicate it is circulated four to seven additional times in the local economy.
3. Every dollar spent locally generates up to 75% more tax revenue to our community and State.
4. Local businesses are often the largest financial supporters of neighborhood school programs, local charities and youth sports activities.
5. Strong local business helps maintain property values and contribute to the character of our community by offering a diverse selection of goods and services.
6. Local business is most often the first job for our children but also is the first introduction into the "real world" of economics. Many of us in NW Houston have had a small business owner in their family at one time or another.
7. Small business often innovates quicker and thus grows faster and can have a greater impact on our community.

*Creating a Strong Vibrant Community when we
"Think Local Business First"*



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Cypress Ranch High School Theatre Department Presents

It All Began With A Little Blue Spot On His Forehead

Playwright and Texas resident,
Alex Garza

Nine-year old Trevor's life turns upside down when he realizes that blue spots are appearing all over his body. This play takes both a humorous and a dramatic look at the world through the eyes of a child as he tries to come to terms with being a little different. Trevor must confront many fears in the story including his fear of doctors, needles, nightmares, and even aliens.

Cypress Ranch Auditorium

Thursday, November 13th at 6:30pm
Friday, November 14th at 6:30pm
Saturday, November 15th at 2:00pm

Tickets at the door
\$5 students and children
\$7 adults

images HAIR STUDIO

Grand Opening!!

We would like to invite you to come and join us on Saturday, Nov. 8th from 3:00 PM until 6:00 PM for our Open House/Grand Opening.

Come and meet our staff for food, drinks and fun. We will also have drawings for Door prizes.

We look forward to seeing you!

Walk-Ins Welcome

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Sun & Mon: Closed
Tue-Thur: 9:30am-7:30pm

Fri: 9:30am - 5:30pm
Sat: 9:00am - 4:00pm

**Inspiring Possibilities
Fall Fundraiser**

Inspiring possibilities, a non profit organization for children with special needs, is excited to host an adult only casino night and silent auction on **Saturday, November 1st** from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. This event will be held at the Coles Crossing Clubhouse, located on the corner of Barker Cypress and Jarvis. The cost is \$50 per person which includes all alcoholic beverages, food and \$100 of casino play money. Please join us and join the fun in making this organization and event successful. Tickets may be purchased in advance by contacting Christy Lieder at 281-744-0568 or christy@allstarma.com. You may also visit our website at www.allstarma.com for more information on our program and donations.

Cy-Fair ISD & Volunteers- (Continued from Cover Page)

October 23 - Classroom Assistance
10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m., ISC West

Learn basic classroom technology tips to assist students in the classroom. A campus administrator or VIPS liaison approval signature is required for this free technology training.

October 28 - Junior Achievement Volunteer Training
9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Berry Center

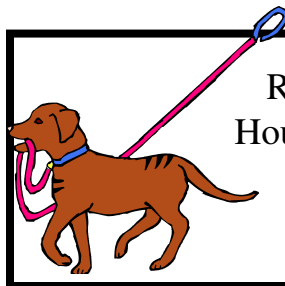
October 28 - Microsoft Word I & II
10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m., ISC West

Learn simple to moderate applications of Microsoft Word software. Administrator signature approval required to register for this free technology training.

October 30 - Fall Conference
8:00 a.m. to 2 p.m., Berry Center

A day of informative workshops is offered to volunteers, staff, parents and community members designed to support the work of volunteers in all district schools.

How to register for training - With the exception of Hearing and Vision Certification, register for training by emailing the PIE office at vipsrsvp@cfisd.net. Provide your name and the name and date of the training you wish to attend. Registration is required to guarantee a seat and training materials. Adults only please.



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15th Annual Wow Craft Show

Good Shepherd Umc - Fairfield

Saturday, October 11, 9:00 – 4:00

The Women of the Word invite you to our annual craft show. We have indoor and outdoor vendors offering many beautiful and useful items - from jewelry, candles, purses, baby items, wooden arts, and yard art to Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas decorations. This is your chance to get ahead of the holiday shopping rush!

There will be a Silent Auction, a Bake Sale sponsored by Women of the Word, and delicious food sold by Boy Scout Troop 533.

Our United Methodist Men will be sponsoring their annual Pumpkin Patch. So bring your family, browse through stacks of pumpkins and capture that "Kodak" moment!

Admission to the Craft Show is \$1 for adults and kids are free.

All proceeds go to support our local missions, including Boys and Girls Country, CareNet Pregnancy Center and Cypress Assistance Ministries as well as our missionary families.

Good Shepherd United Methodist Church is located in the Fairfield Subdivision at 290 and Mason. From Mason, turn right on Cypresswood Drive and follow the signs to the church located at 20155 Cypresswood Drive. The Craft Show will be inside the gym and in the parking lot.

Contact Valerie Ward at val.ward@comcast.net for vendor or other information or call the church office at 281-373-2273.

WEE WUN FALL FESTIVAL 2008

Friday, October 24th 5-8pm

Cypress United Methodist Church
13403 Cypress North Houston Road
(between Huffmeister & Eldridge)

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SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

Please be aware of children walking and biking to and from school. Of course, we want all children to be safe and school buses are relatively safe. However, accidents and injuries involving school buses do happen. More often than not these injuries happen when children are entering or exiting the bus. Here are some safety tips for school bus riders.

- Have a safe place to wait for the bus, away from traffic and the street.
- Stay away from the bus until it comes to a complete stop and the driver signals you to enter.
- Hold onto the handrails when entering or exiting the bus.
- Once on the bus, take your seat and remain seated face forward.
- Talk quietly so that you don't distract the driver.
- Never throw things on the bus and keep your hands to yourself.
- When you exit the bus, take ten giant steps



away from the bus. When you are closer than 10 feet from the bus, the driver might not see you. This is known as the DANGER ZONE.

- If you forget something on the bus, do not return to the bus to get it. The driver might not see you.
- Be aware of the street traffic around you.
- If you need to cross the street, cross in front of the bus never behind the bus.

Motorists should follow safety rules around school buses. Yellow flashing lights indicate that the bus is preparing to stop. Motorists should slow down and be prepared to stop. Red flashing lights indicate that the bus has stopped and that children are getting on or off. Motorists must stop their cars and wait until the red flashing lights are turned off. Here are a few more traffic safety tips for motorists.

- When backing out of the driveway or garage, watch out for children.
 - When driving through neighborhoods and especially in school zones, watch out for children. Children don't always pay attention to traffic and don't always know that motorists have trouble seeing them.
 - Slow down. Watch out for children walking or playing in the street.
 - Be alert and ready to stop. Children sometimes dart into the street.
- Basically "Watch out for our Bridgeland children!"

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College Costs Are Rising— Are You Keeping Pace?

Submitted by Rich Keith

If you have kids, you want a college education for them. But—do you know how much college costs? Do you know how much you need to save? Do you know the many different tax-advantaged ways to save for college? We will explore the information you need to wisely save and invest for college. You can make a college education an affordable choice for you or your child.

We all know that college costs are rising. For 2007-2008, The College Board® reports that the average cost for tuition and fees at private four-year colleges is \$23,712, up 6.3% over last year. Although the \$6,185 average cost of tuition and fees at a four-year public college is a lot less, these costs are up 6.6% from last year. In the past 5 years, the average cost of tuition and fees has risen by 31% at private four-year colleges and 51% at four-year public colleges.

If college costs were to increase by just 5% per year, in 10 years the average cost of tuition and fees at a four-year private college would be \$38,624 each year, and the average cost at a four-year public college would be \$10,075. That's a four-year total of more than \$40,299 for a public college and nearly \$154,497 for a private school—and this is just tuition and fees! For 2007-2008, The College Board® reports that room and board charges average \$8,595 at four-year private colleges and \$7,404 at four-year public colleges. (Source: Trends in College Pricing 2007, The College Board®. Assumes a 5% increase in college costs each year and a child entering college at age 18.)

But don't despair. While college costs are rising, many colleges still remain affordable. The College Board® reports that 45% of students attending a four-year public college pay less than \$6,000 in tuition and fees, and 89% of students attending a public college pay less than \$12,000. So college is still within reach for most families, but especially for those that start saving for it early.

Saving for College with Compounding

Don't be daunted by the amount you may have to save. Small amounts of money, if invested early, can become sizable investments through the remarkable power of compounding. For example, if you save \$200 a month at an 8% annual rate of return for your newborn child, you will have over \$96,000 for college when she turns 18.

Financial Aid and Savings

As part of saving for college, you need to know whether your child will be eligible for financial aid, which reduces what you may need to save for college. You also should be aware, however, that saving for college might impact financial aid. See your financial advisor or college financial aid specialist for details.

College Saving While Saving Taxes

Once you determine how much you need to save or can afford to save, you need to decide what types of college saving vehicles you want to use. In addition to mutual funds, regular brokerage accounts and bank savings accounts, there are now a number of tax-advantaged alternatives available to help you save for college. Get the facts about each of the options, and decide which type might be right for you: 529 plans, prepaid tuition plans, college savings plans, Coverdell Education Savings Accounts, custodial accounts and US Savings Bonds.

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- Load dishwasher

Bathrooms

- Clean sinks, counters; change towels
- Clean, disinfect toilets, tubs, showers
- Hand wash, disinfect floors

All Rooms

- Pick up and straighten
- Dust sills, ledges, wall hangings
- Remove cobwebs
- Dust/vacuum furniture
- Vacuum floors, carpets
- Vacuum stairs
- Vacuum under beds
- Change linens, make beds
- Empty trash

Windows

- Clean entry window & one set of patio door windows
- Clean window over kitchen sink

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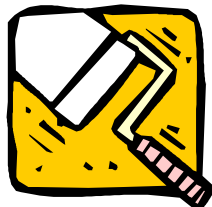
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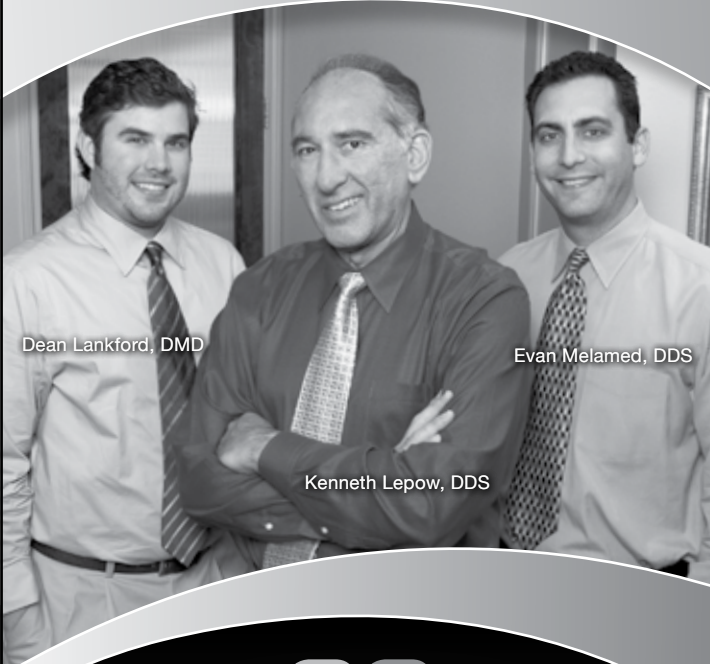
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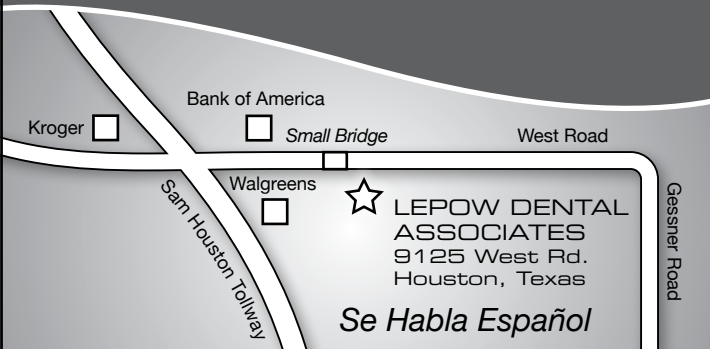
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7th Annual Fairfield 5K for Life

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Date: Saturday, Oct. 18th, 2008 Rain or Shine.

Time: 5K begins at 8:00 a.m. 50-yard dash begins at 8:45 a.m. Festivities follow with refreshments, prize drawings, and awards.

Place: Fairfield Athletic Center, 16055 Mason Road

Race packet pickup: 7 to 8 p.m. Friday evening at the Fairfield Athletic Club; 7:00 a.m. race day

Awards: 1st, 2nd, 3rd Male & Female overall; Boy under 12 & Girl under 12 (5K)

Fees: 5K--\$20 before 10/11; \$25 after 10/11

50-yard dash for kids 10 and under--\$10 before 10/11; \$15 after 10/11

Questions: Call Kelley Armstrong at 281-796-6577 or email at kdabrazofuerte@yahoo.com

Visit the website @ <http://www.fairfield5k.apluscompsci.com>

Online registration is available via Active.com (enter through our website).

One registrant per form. Copies accepted. Sorry, no refunds. Entrants will receive T-shirts, chances to win prize drawings, and refreshments. Additional chances for prizes can be purchased the day of the race, so bring your dollars! Jogging strollers are welcome. Sorry, no bikes, rollerblades, or scooters allowed!

Name _____ Address _____

Phone number _____ Email Address _____

Please circle shirt size: Youth L Adult S Adult M Adult L Adult XL

Please mail or deliver form to: Race director, 15418 Coral Leaf Trail, Cypress, TX 77433

Make checks payable to Kelley Armstrong.

ENTRY FORM MUST BE SIGNED BELOW TO ENTER RACE

Release of Liability. In consideration of acceptance of this entry, I waive and release any and all claims for myself and my heirs against Friendswood Development, Fairfield Athletic Club, Kelley Armstrong, all sponsors and their representatives for any and all injuries suffered by me in this event. I attest and verify that I am physically fit and have sufficiently trained for this event and my physical condition has been recently verified by a licensed medical doctor. Further, I hereby grant full permission to any and all of the foregoing to use photographs or images taken during this event for legitimate purpose. I agree to abide by the rules of this event and show good sportsmanship.

Signature: _____ Date _____

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Lauren is 5 years old. She has a twin sister Elizabeth and a younger brother Jack. Lauren laughs, explores, plays and loves just like many 5 year olds. Lauren is deaf blind. Lauren will learn to communicate with her hands - but she needs an intervener to open these doors. In the United States, interveners are not recognized as licensed professionals as they are in Canada. All interveners in the United States must be privately funded. So providing an intervener for a child in Texas becomes the sole responsibility of the family. Interveners are \$1,000-\$1,500 a week. Lauren's family is looking for help in the form of donations to pay for Lauren's intervener.

On the morning of Saturday, October 18, the Northwest Houston Mothers of Multiples (NWHMOM) will hold a Bake Sale during their Fall "Garage Sale" at the Outback Steakhouse Parking lot (7070 Highway 6 North, Houston, TX 77095; in the Best Buy/Barnes & Nobles shopping center). The proceeds from the Bake Sale will be donated to Lauren's family to help with the costs of Lauren's intervener.

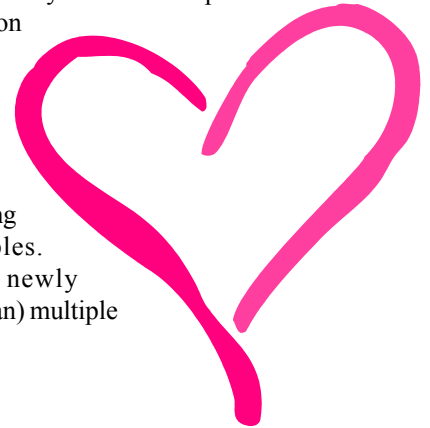
In addition, NWHMOM will host a Vendor Day on Saturday, October 25 from 9 am to 4 pm at the Coles Crossing subdivision clubhouse (13050 Barker Cypress, Cypress, TX 77429) to further help support Lauren's intervener costs. The Vendor Day will have a

variety of merchandise: from home décor to clothing and accessories, jewelry, fall and holiday decorations and gifts, food items and much, much more. Come out and start your holiday shopping early!

For more information about Lauren please visit her website: www.HelpLaurenLearn.net. NWHMOM hopes to see everyone at the Bake Sale and/or the Vendor Day. Please come out and support Lauren!


The Northwest Houston Mothers of Multiples (NWHMOM) meet the third Thursday of every month at 7 pm at the Coles Crossing subdivision clubhouse (13050 Barker Cypress in Cypress). NWHMOM assists mothers of multiple birth children by lending them support, sharing information and relating experiences raising multiples. Welcoming all expectant, newly delivered and seasoned (veteran) multiple mothers.

Details: www.nwhmom.org



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The advertisement features a large photograph of a swimming pool with two waterfalls, a gazebo, and lounge chairs. The text is overlaid on the bottom portion of the image.



Halloween safety tips

Some tips for the little ghouls & goblins for a fun night:

1. Always look both ways when crossing the street!
2. Carry a flashlight and walk with a group of friends/family.
3. Have an adult check all candy/goodies before eating anything.
4. Only go up to homes with their front porch light on.
5. Report any suspicious activity to an adult.

Follow these simple tips, along with your parents/guardians rules, and you'll be sure to have a great time on this frightful night!

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Six Basic Tenants to Successful Investing

Submitted by Kai A. Lamb

While no two investors are alike, these are some basic guidelines that I believe most investors should follow for successful investing.

1. Invest in top-rated, quality investments.

Sounds very basic, but you would be amazed at how often I see an individual assets are not allocated to quality investments. Below are two ways to make sure you are in top-rated, quality investments:

- If investing in individual equities, one should only invest in well-managed, quality stocks. A well-known television personality refers to this as investing in the “best of breed”. These are usually the stocks of high quality companies when compared to their competitors within the same sector or industry.
- If investing in mutual funds, one should use free Internet tools, such as Morningstar.com, to ensure that their funds are top rated. While mutual fund portfolios should not be constructed purely on Morningstar® star-ratings, investors should stick the best managed funds with low expenses – typically these garner 4 and 5 star ratings by Morningstar®.

2. Understand that Potential Higher Reward could mean Higher Risk.

A couple of years ago, someone asked me what type of return they could reasonably expect to receive from an investment classified

as moderate to conservative. Since interest rates were higher at that time, I told them they could typically expect about a 6% to 7% annual return. They disputed why they would have to settle for such low rates because they said they could purchase something called a first trust-deed and receive interest payments of 12%-14% annually. Today, many of those same first trust-deeds in Las Vegas and Phoenix are in default and have stopped all interest payments. Therefore it is important to understand that there is a direct relationship between higher reward and higher risk.

3. Be Disciplined.

All too often, investors make emotional decisions based on daily market activity or newspaper headlines. Successful investing for the every day investor is a long-term endeavor that requires disciplined diversification, not short-sighted or market timing trading.

4. Incorporate Non-Correlated asset classes into your portfolio diversification.

While not appropriate for all investors, some investors should incorporate a small percentage of non-correlated asset classes in their portfolios. This may potentially increase a portfolio’s return while actually reducing its overall risk. Correlation measures how closely

(Continued on Page 19)

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Six Basic Tenants- (Continued from Page 18)

two assets relate to one another. For example, stocks and bonds are considered to have an inverse correlation – where if one goes up in value, the other is expected to go down in value. Asset classes such as natural resources, commodities and even real estate are considered non-correlated asset classes – their price movements are not directly tied to the prices of stocks or bonds.

5. Understand your investments.

While every investor does not need to be a securities analyst and understand each of their investments' alpha, beta or standard deviation – they should have a fundamental understanding of what they own, why they own it and what type of return they can reasonably expect from their investments. A good rule of thumb is that if you cannot explain your investments to another individual, then you probably should not be investing in that investment.

Variable annuities are a prime example of this. This type of annuity typically has so many bells and whistles, confusing riders and underlying fees that I personally believe that a large percentage of annuity holders do not truly understand the details of their annuities and how they work.

6. If you work with a “financial advisor” you should...

- Check your advisors background on www.FINRA.org - Broker Check. I have seen far too many advisors that were selling cars

one year, pass a few securities exams and now they are advising clients on how to manage their wealth.

- Ask questions – lots of them. All too often, investors will not question the advice given by their advisor. Very appropriate questions include “How long have you worked as a Financial Advisor?”, “How much can you discount this trading commission?” or even “How much do you earn from this trade?” This is your hard earned money and the investing of such may directly impact your future financial well-being – ask questions. Good advisors have nothing to hide.
- Understand the fundamental role your advisor can play in your investing and the significant difference between a stockbroker and a Registered Investment Advisor.

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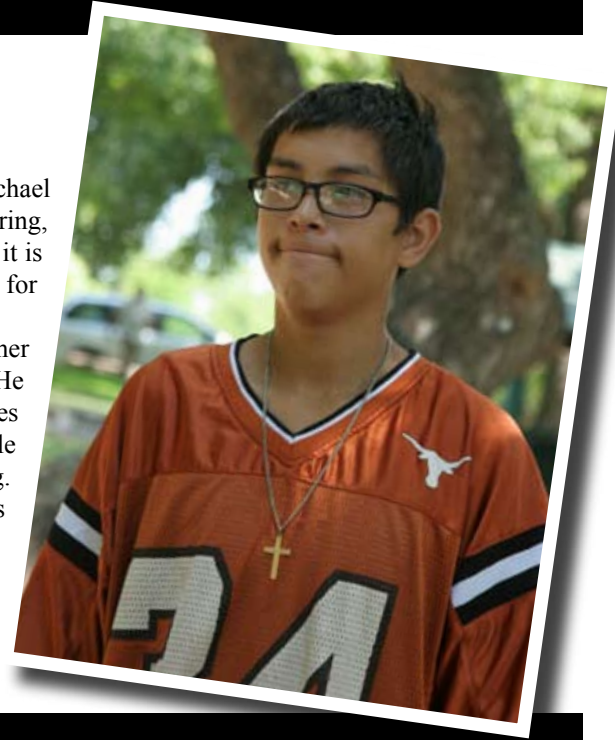
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Imagine hearing a child ask “is it my turn yet” when asking about adoption. Michael has seen others find their forever family, and he is still patiently waiting and wondering, “is it my turn”. Hopefully soon we can answer his question with a “yes Michael, it is your turn”. Michael is a very sweet and loving 15 year old. He has a dog he cares for and has grown to love, an abused dog that he has rescued and nurtured.

Born in August 1993, Michael likes all of the things any boy would love - summer camps, go carts, fishing, baseball and anything that has to do with cars (and UT). He currently participates in special education and tries very hard in school. He hopes to play sports in school when he is adopted. Michael would do well with a single mother or a two parent family. Michael is a child who really wants a place to belong. He is very affectionate and has missed out on being a part of a family. He just wants someone to love him, and his dog. Could this be you?

If you are interested in learning about Michael, or about adoption in general, please call the Adoption Coalition of Texas at 512-301-2825 or info@adopttexas.org.



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A graphic of a spiral-bound notebook with a light blue cover and a white page. The spiral binding is on the left side. The page is mostly blank, with the text "NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE" centered in the middle. There are three large black circles on the left side of the page, one near the top, one in the middle, and one near the bottom, which appear to be part of the spiral binding.

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Attention KIDS: Send Us Your Masterpiece!

Color the drawing below and mail the finished artwork to us at 311 Ranch Road 620 S Ste. 200, Lakeway, TX 78734
We will select the top few and post their artwork online at www.PEELinc.com. DUE: October 31st

Be sure to include the following so we can let you know!

Name: _____ (first name, last initial)

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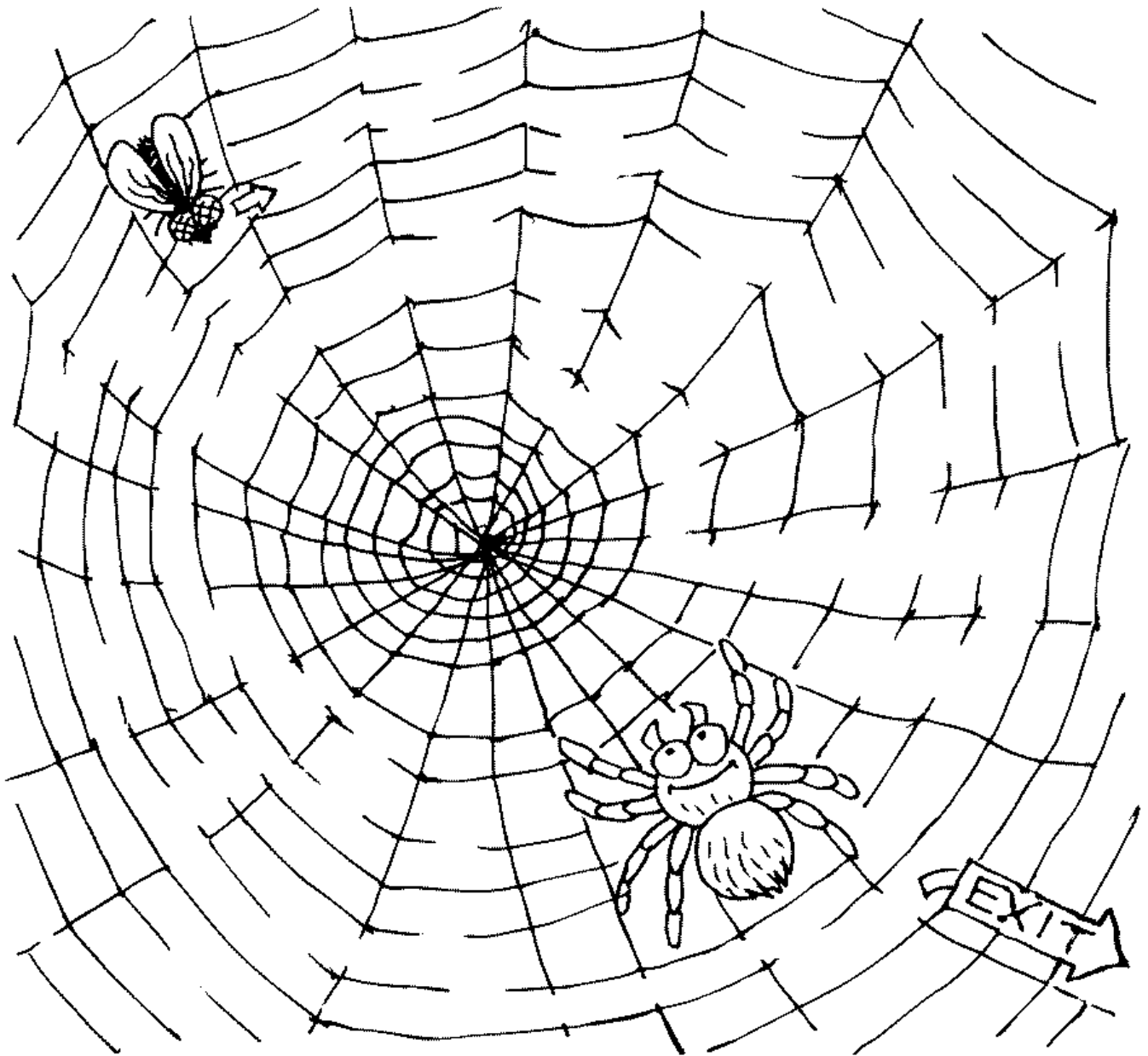
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Bridgeland Year-to-Date Sales Report

	Nov '07	Dec '07	Jan '08	Feb '08	Mar '08	Apr '08	May '08	Jun '08	July '08	Aug '08
\$500,000 and above			0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
\$451,000--\$499,999			0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
\$351,000--\$450,000			1	0	3	3	2	0	1	1
\$276,000--\$350,000			2	2	1	3	2	2	7	5
\$231,000--\$275,000			1	2	3	3	0	1	3	5
\$201,000--\$230,000			2	2	5	2	0	1	0	0
\$200,000 and below			0	1	2	0	1	0	1	1
Total	-	-	6	7	15	12	5	4	13	12
Highest \$/sq ft			\$96.81	\$101.59	\$104.76	\$114.84	\$104.50	\$93.49	\$108.23	\$122.01

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