

NORTHLAKE FOREST

Herald

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF THE NORTHLAKE
FOREST HOA

July 2013

Volume 3, Issue 7

HOUSTON AREA 4TH OF JULY *Events and Festivities*

FREEDOM OVER TEXAS

The City of Houston will host an extraordinary patriotic celebration on July 4th at Eleanor Tinsley Park from 4pm-10pm. The show will feature performances by Martina McBride and Sheryl Crow. Other attractions include the Bud Light Zone, where you can have autographs by former NFL players and glide on an 85 ft zipline, Sky Stage, All American Kids Zone, Family Fitness Challenge, and Liberty Park. Discount tickets are available.

TOMBALL STREET PARTY AND FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Tomball will host a daylong street party on Business Highway 249 with live music, activities for the kids, food, and more. The annual fireworks spectacular will be at dusk.

KEMAH BOARDWALK

Kemah Boardwalk will host 4th of July celebrations including live music and a patriotic fireworks show over Galveston Bay at 9:30pm.

Cypress Symphony to Host Inaugural Founder's Dinner

The Cypress Symphony cordially invites you to "Encore!" our Inaugural Fundraising dinner. Excitement is building for Cypress Symphony's first season and you can help by attending this event. Your \$100 ticket will help secure our first year and contribute to the cultivation of an arts culture in Northwest Houston. You will also enjoy an elegant dinner at one of Cypress' premier restaurants, Dario's Cuisine. Look forward to a silent auction as well as a musical surprise. We can't wait to spend this special evening with you! Tickets to this event can be purchased at csencore.eventbrite.com.

Tickets to our inaugural concert season can be purchased at cypresssymphony.org.

Special Announcements

- Kathryn Treat and Tyler Burwitz were married on May 17, 2013 at Ashton Gardens. The bride is the daughter of Northlake Forest residents Mr. and Mrs. Troy W. Treat, and granddaughter of Northlake Forest residents Mr and Mrs. Mike Burkett. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Burwitz of Buffalo, Texas. Congratulations to the happy couple!
- Dick Cummings of Sunmill Ct will celebrate his birthday on July 7. He will be 39....AGAIN....!
- Happy 10th Birthday to Miss Reese Holland!

NORTHLAKE FOREST

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

All of our committees are seeking volunteers to help continue making our community a fun place to be. Just a little bit of your time can go a long way. If you are willing to help, in any way, please contact a board member with your interest.

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Peel, Inc. www.PEELinc.com, 512-263-9181
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Kids' Cross-Country Team's Season Starts September 10th

The Northwest Flyers Track Club Youth Cross-Country Team kicks off the fall season with registration and an orientation for parents and athletes on Tuesday, September 10, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. (location to be announced). The first practice will be held at the Cypress Creek YMCA on Thursday, September 12.

The Northwest Flyers Track Club is a member program of USA Track and Field (USATF), the national governing body for track and cross country. The club is in its 26th year in the northwest Houston area. Ages 6 - 18 may participate in the team, and both beginners and experienced runners are welcome.

Contact Coach Eric Wentworth at emw1105@gmail.com, 281-961-6603, or Coach Donnell Carter at dcarterpfs@msn.com, 281-467-4727, for more information. Visit www.northwestflyers.org to get updates and learn more about the team.

Cypress-Tomball Democrats July Meeting

The next Cypress-Tomball Democrats monthly meeting will be on Tuesday, July 16, 2013. It will be held at Rudy's Grill & Cantina, 11760 Grant Rd., Cypress, TX 77429, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

All are welcome to attend and to join this growing club, which meets on the third Tuesday of every month. The meetings always feature informative guest speakers who address timely topics. For more information, visit the website at www.cytomdems.com or contact Glenn Etienne at cytomdems@yahoo.com.



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NORTHLAKE FOREST



It Really is a Small World After All

By Vicki Milana



This past school year has been an eventful one for twenty-two Houston area Ayusa families. In August 2012, these families opened their hearts and their homes to foreign exchange students from around the world. During the 2012-2013 school year; we had eleven countries represented in our area, some of the countries included were Germany, Brazil, Italy, Lebanon, China, Japan and Tunisia.

The Ayusa foreign exchange student program is a great way to enrich not only the lives of your family members, but that of the folks in your community and the student themselves. "Both my wife and I have been hosting for the past five years and have enjoyed every minute of it!" says Theodore Odom of Pearland, Texas. "My wife and I have no children, so we are able to bring the students in for the full year and be their Host Parents. We believe it's a way of giving back. This year's student, Ina Zyfi of Albania has had a great time meeting new people, making new friends and volunteering her time to a

local dachshund rescue."

"We welcome host families of all shapes and sizes – families with young children, families with no children, empty nesters whose children have left home, single parents and non-traditional families," says Connie Coutu, Regional Manager of Ayusa, a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization. "The key requirements for a host family are to provide a safe and nurturing home environment, genuinely love children, and have a desire to learn more about a different culture."

"Our students really love giving back to the community", says Heather Wells, the Houston area Senior Regional Director. "One of our students, Nesrine Mbarek of Tunisia, participated in over 300 hours of community service. She was actually one of three students who won a trip for her community service and also attended a US Department of State "Teaching English as a Second Language" conference in April for her hard work. Other students

(Continued on Page 5)

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Small World (Continued from Page 4)

have worked in food banks and have given presentations on their home countries in their schools.”

This year, Ayusa is sponsoring over 900 students from 60 different countries in the United States. Volunteer host families are needed in our area to house these students for the 2013-2014 school year. The families need only provide foreign exchange students a nurturing environment, three meals a day and a bedroom (either private or shared with a host sibling of the same gender). Each host family and student is supported by a professionally trained community representative who works with the family and student for the entire program.

If you are interested in hosting an exchange student, please visit the Ayusa website at www.ayusa.org and complete the on-line application. You can view the students that are available for placement by clicking on the View Student Profiles on the home page. Help make this a memorable year for both your children and the prospective students. You'll be glad you did!



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