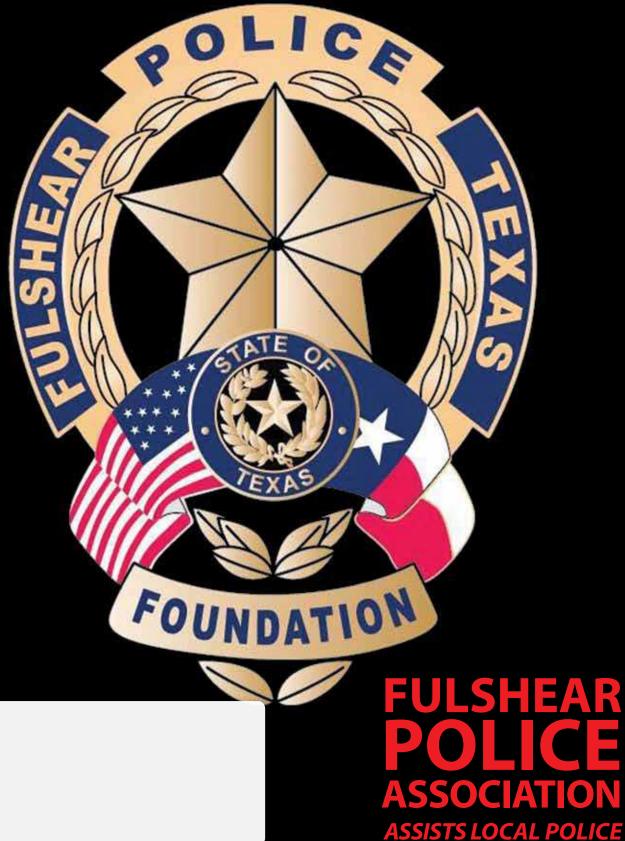
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FULSHEAR LIVING monthly"

The Fulshear Living Monthly is a publication of the Fort Bend Herald and the Katy Times.

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COVER STORY



Fulshear Police Foundation filling needs for department

ith the aid of a foundation that helps fill its needs, the Fulshear Police Department is able to have all the needed equipment, training and technology to maintain the excellence and professionalism to the citizens of Fulshear.

The Fulshear Police Foundation was founded in May of 2016 and the vision of the organization is to keep Fulshear a safe community to live in, to work in and to visit.

"It is a way to supplement what the city cannot provide for the department," said Fulshear Police Captain Mike McCoy. "Our city is very generous when it comes to our budget in that they give us what we need to do our job here. There is on occasion times here that we want to ask for a little bit more but there is no funding for those projects

Continued on page 8





COVER STORY

Continued from page 6

and what the foundation was created for to help us out."

A retired Houston police officer, Clay Stewart serves as president of the board and was brought on to form the foundation. The foundation is based on how the Houston Police Foundation is run. A volunteer board of directors runs the foundation.

Membership can be purchased into the foundation for an annual membership of \$50 and a lifetime membership of \$1,500. Memberships are 100 percent tax deductible.

McCoy said 100 percent of the money raised goes directly to the foundation and in turn to the training and equipment that is needed above and beyond the Fulshear Police Department's budget.

This is not just a foundation made up of police officers. This foundation offers memberships to the general public and welcomes their input into the dealings of the foundation.

"It is basically made up of all civilians," McCoy said. "Clay (Stewart) is a police officer, but he is a retired police officer. Everyone else on the board is a general makeup of the community. It is basically the citizens of



Fulshear and it is their way to show their support for the Fulshear Police Department."

This allows businesses that want to make donations to the department to do it through the foundation and that is a big plus. McCoy said recently a bulletproof vest was purchased for the K-9 officer through a donation made to the foundation.

"If someone wants to give a donation for a specific cause, they can do it but it has to be done through the foundation," McCoy said.

The officers who represent the Fulshear Police Department bring a vast amount of knowledge and experience to the department. Officers with the Fulshear Police Department have extensive training in areas such as crime prevention; community oriented policing, use of force, patrol tactics, crisis management and

Continued on page 10







COVER STORY

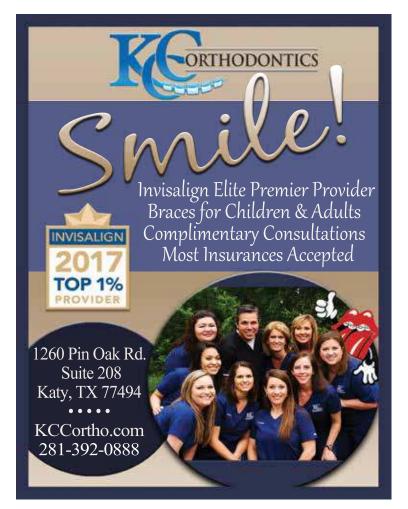
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response, narcotics enforcement and eradication, and incident command system.

The Fulshear Police Department is committed to maintaining the training of its officers. This assures that Fulshear police officers are equipped with the latest knowledge about laws and crime fighting techniques. The department wants to create a foundation upon which to make the Fulshear Police Department a model for public safety in semi-rural cities.

The Fulshear Police Department has adopted an in depth hiring process to assure that the department is selecting officers that represent the

department honorably. The department strives to stay on the technology curve. The Fulshear Police Department



Contract of the sector of the

"This is the most valuable crime-fighting tool on the market."

- Mike McCoy, Fulshear Police Captain

has equipped its patrol fleet with latest technology.

Currently the crime rate in the city of Fulshear is minimal compared to surrounding communities. "Quality of Life Crimes" are low due to the constant support the Fulshear Police Department receives from its citizens.

"We understand it is essential for the Fulshear Police Department to maintain a strong partnership with its citizens in order to continue its effort in minimizing crime in the city of Fulshear," McCoy said. "This is the most valuable crime-fighting tool on the market."

The majority of the funding goes towards training for the Fulshear police officers such as tactical training. Once the request is made to the foundation, the board votes on the funding of the training.

"We have a fitness program here at the police department, and the officers suggested we do a public training on the rowing machines," McCoy said. "The rowing machines are expensive so we approached the foundation and were able to purchase two rowing machines for the department. So now the guys have the opportunity to do the traditional fitness tests twice a year."

McCoy said the current project that the department is approaching the foundation on is to purchase lockers for the officers to keep their personal equipment when on duty. He said he has approached the foundation with a proposal for the lockers.

"This would allow each individual officer to keep their gear, their bulletproof vest, a change of clothes to work out in and if this is approved, we will get lockers for the department," McCoy said. "We are going to submit for them and we are very excited for it."

McCoy said the main goal for the foundation is to provide training and equipment first.

"As it grows we would like to see the foundation sponsor scholarships to students and eventually we will get there and Fulshear is growing and with that growth and population, there is a need for extra equipment," McCoy said. "That is what the foundation is for and that is to supplement our training and equipment."

McCoy, who has served with the Houston Police Department as well, knows the foundation is a great benefit to the police force.

There are 23 members on the Fulshear Police Department force and upcoming events planned for the foundation include hosting an annual banquet in which an officer of the year will be honored.

"That award will go to the officers that go above and beyond the call of duty," McCoy said.

Memberships to the Fulshear Police Foundation can be found at www. fulshearpolicefoundation. com.



CCEANERS

SCHOOL NEWS



The Fulshear High Storm Dance team is the newest addition to the high school Pictured left to right are the first members of the Storm dance squad. They are Hayley Jeansonne, Yoselin Arellano, Isebella Morgart, Angelina Duerto-Hunter, Allison Harvey, Gabriela Villalon, Zoe Choate, Jennifer Hooper, Victoria Escobedo, and Alexis Ruggiero.



Showing off Fulshear Storm dance team ready to shine spotlight on school

howing off the talents of their students is what Fulshear High School does best, and the Fulshear Storm Dance Team is the newest addition to campus to do just that.

Led by Fulshear Storm Dance Team Coach Erica Sury, who is also the CFHS Fine Arts Department Chair, the dance team has been a long-time pursuit.

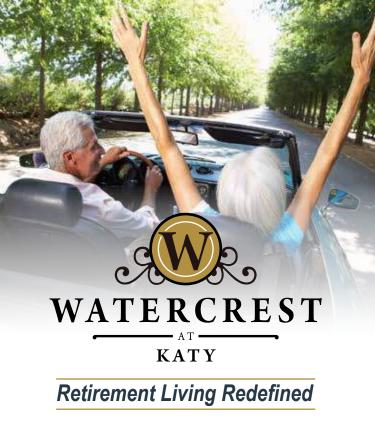
The goal was to have dance team by the start of the 2017-2018 school year, and progress is moving forward.

The Fulshear Storm Dance Team name was officially announced in the fall of 2016 followed by tryouts to all students before spring break. The 2017-2018 members were recognized on March 10 and will be gearing up for the upcoming school year, said Sury.

"A dance team member is expected to work hard not only in practice but also in all of their classes," she said. "They are expected to be role models for their peers and represent their school in a positive way. Dance team is a yearlong sport so they must be truly committed to their teammates."

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SCHOOL NEWS

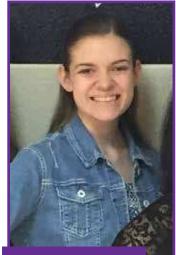
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The Fulshear High Storm Dance team took on a service project of stuffing easter eggs at Simonton Community Church.



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Allison Harvey

Storm Dance Team members Allison Harvey and Alexis Ruggiero bring experience to the team.

Harvey, a ninth-grader, not only loves to dance, but also was ready to get involved in a school activity.

"I have danced at Forever Dance for 10 years, and with the Storm Dance Team, I'm looking forward to meeting new people," she said.

Ruggiero has been a dancer her entire life and was looking to get involved with a dance team after a brief break from the art.

"I saw this as an ample opportunity to do what I love, make new friends and new memories. I have always loved the idea of dancing on a

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school team and competing with my dance mates. With the Storm Dance Team, I can't wait to compete and perform with my friends," said Ruggiero, a 10th grader.

The Storm Dance Team members will be attending the UDA Team Camp in San Marcos in July and have learned their competition jazz routine for next year. The team will also be performing at upcoming football games, pep rallies and the Fort Bend County Parade and city of Fulshear parades.

As Storm Dance Team leader, Sury brings extensive experience to share with her students.



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"I saw this as an ample opportunity to do what I love, make new friends and new memories."

- Alexis Ruggiero

Sury, a 1996 B.F. Terry High School graduate, has been a dance teacher and dance director for 13 years teaching throughout Spring ISD, Fort Bend ISD and Lamar Consolidated ISD. She is also the Dean Leaman Junior High School Dance Teacher.

Seeing her students excel in something they love to do is

her inspiration.

"I love working in the district that I grew up in. I also truly enjoy watching students grow into responsible, selfmotivated young adults. I know my job is to teach dance, but I teach so much more. My greatest passion is to teach the whole student not just the dance student," she said.





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Fulshear chamber to host membership meeting





he Fulshear Area Chamber of Commerce will host its membership meeting Wednesday, May 10 at 7:30 a.m. with a special meet the judges' event.

Meet and greet session begins at 7:30 a.m. with the meeting set to begin at 8 a.m.

The guest speakers at this meeting will be three Fort Bend County judges. Judge Maggie Perez Jaramillo, Judge Chad Bridges and Judge Christopher Morales will host a panel discussion and answer all questions.

Bridges was appointed by Texas Governor Greg Abbott in August 2015 to preside over the 240th District Court after Judge Thomas R. Culver III retired in June of 2015.

In addition to vowing to protect and defend all that the position entails, Bridges vowed to honor the legacy that Judge Thomas R. Culver, III bestowed upon the 240th Judicial District Court and, with it, the Judiciary of the State of Texas.

Bridges started law school at the University of Houston Law Center in 1991. He was a member of the honor court and the Houston Journal of International Law. Bridges also received the New Dean's Scholarship in 1994. During law school, Bridges served as an intern for United States District Judge Terry Means and later for the Harris County District Attorney's Office.

After passing the bar exam in November, Bridges became an Assistant District Attorney in Harris County in 1994. In that position, Bridges handled post-conviction death penalty litigation on behalf of the State of Texas.

After his assignment in the Appellate Division of the Harris County District Attorney's Office ended, Bridges transferred to the trial bureau and prosecuted misdemeanor and felony cases, including an assignment with the Family Criminal Law Division.

Bridges subsequently became the First Assistant District Attorney for the Waller County Criminal District Attorney's Office. During his tenure in Waller County, Bridges helped to create a Family Violence Division as well as a Narcotics Taskforce.

In 2000, Bridges left the criminal law arena to become Legal Counsel for Computer Sciences Corporation. However, the call to public service led him back to representing the people of the State of Texas.

Upon joining the Fort Bend County District Attorney's

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office in 2003, Bridges was named as Chief Prosecutor for the Family Violence Division of the Fort Bend County District Attorney's Office. During his time with the Fort Bend County District Attorney's Office, Bridges served as president and later as director of the Fort Bend County Crime Victim's Response Team (CVRT). In 2011, Bridges received the Carol Rees Award from CVRT for outstanding service to crime victims.

In furtherance of his commitment to public service, Bridges has presented as a lecturer for the Texas District and County Attorney's Association (TDCAA) and has

acted as a faculty advisor for TDCAA's Advanced Trial Skill's Course. Notably, Bridges has trained volunteers for the Fort Bend County Women's Center as well as cadets at the Gus George Law Enforcement Academy.

Additionally, he was a member of the Fort Bend Human Trafficking Task Force and is on the Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee for the State Bar of Texas.

When Maggie Perez Jaramillo was sworn in as a district court judge, history was made. Jaramillo was the first female Latina to be named as a district court judge.

Jaramillo was appointed by then-Texas Governor Rick



Judge Maggie Perez Jaramillo



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Perry and presides over the 400th District Court. She filled the vacancy in that position following the retirement of Judge Cliff Vacek. Jaramillo has been an attorney in private practice and has served as a former assistant county attorney in Starr County.

According to the Governor's office, she is a member of the Fort Bend County Criminal Defense Attorneys Association and the Fort Bend County Mental Health Board. She is also a member of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #3903, volunteer for the Hispanic Scholarship fund and a gatekeeper for the Fort Bend County Fair. Christopher Morales was elected as Judge of County Court at Law No. 1, in 2014 and in January 2017, was selected by his peers to serve as Administrative Judge over all the County Courts at Law. As Judge of County Court at Law No. 1, he manages a multitude of cases that impacts the daily life of every citizen in Fort Bend County.

Morales oversees such matters as probate and guardianship cases, juvenile cases, civil litigation cases up to \$200,000, condemnation proceedings, civil mental health commitments, and criminal misdemeanor cases. Most importantly, Morales also oversees Fort Bend County's only misdemeanor Criminal Mental Health Court, a program designed to reduce recidivism rates among defendants with mental illness.

His current term in office will expire in December of 2018. He was successful in the Republican primary in March of 2014 as he gained 51.5 percent of the vote.

Morales received his bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University. He then finished his studies at the Texas College of Law. In 2008, Morales was selected to attend the National Advocacy Center, where he focused on trial skills.

Morales previously practiced law out of his own



Judge Christopher Morales

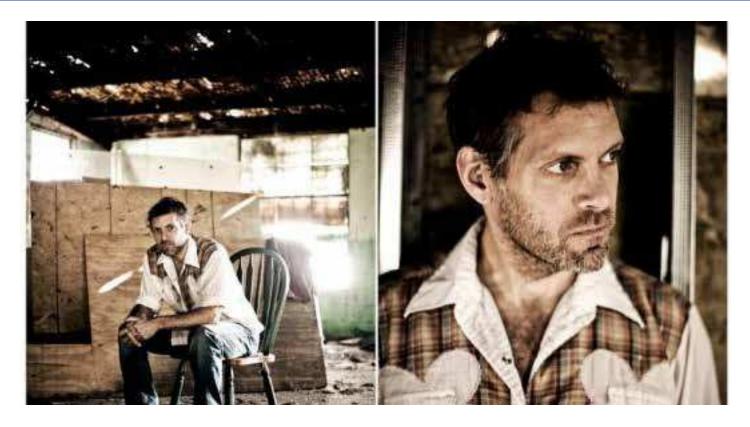
firm, The Morales Law Firm, PLLC. He has also worked with the firm Roberts Markel Weinberg, PC and the Fort Bend County District Attorney's office.

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Picott to perform at Fulshear House Concerts



od Picott will perform Sunday, May 21 at the Fulshear House Concerts.

The last five shows have been waitlisted, so make sure and donate early to reserve a spot.

A \$20 donation per person is suggested for the show, and all proceeds go to Picott.

Doors open at 4:30 p.m., music begins around 5:15 p.m. There will be two 45-minute sets with a break in the middle for dinner and artist meet and greet.

Bring a potluck dish to share and BYOB.

The concert house will have water, tea, coffee, ice, some soft drinks and plenty of chairs. The show is inside in the living room.

CD's and other merchandise will also be available at the show.

It's been 15 years since Rod Picott laid down his work belt, picked up an acoustic guitar and put a permanent end to his gig as a sheet rock hanger. He'd been writing music in private for years, but it was 2001's *Tiger Tom Dixon's Blues* — a debut album that bridged the gap between between folk and Americana — that officially introduced him as a singer/songwriter, kick starting one of the more acclaimed careers in modernday roots music.

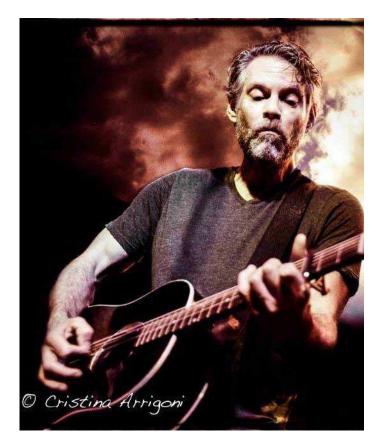
Since then, he's focused on a different kind of construction: building a catalog of songs that spin stories of hard work, heartache and the human condition.

On *Fortune*, he turns his focus inward, using himself not the people around him as the album's main character. It's his seventh solo release, written and recorded after years of heavy touring. Looking to make a record that could serve as a raw, authentic document of his live show, Picott recorded *Fortune* quickly, cutting six songs during his first day in the "A lot of these songs explore a sense of chance, of what might happen with your life..."

studio and finishing the entire album within a week and a half.

"I wanted to make a record where we captured performances, as opposed to imitating performances,"says Picott, who grew up in rural New England before relocating to Nashville. "Technology makes it so easy to do an imitation of what your best performance would sound like, but that's not a real performance. That's just what you would *want* yourself to sound like. I didn't want to do that. For better or worse,

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Fortune is what I actually sound like."

Musicians like Slaid Cleaves, Ray Wylie Hubbard, and Fred Eaglesmith would claim it's for the better. All three have recorded Picott's songs, showing their support for a self-sufficient songwriter who plays most of his shows alone, relying on his voice and acoustic guitar to pack a punch.

Fortune gave him a chance to put together a small band, though, with Will Kimbrough (Steve Earle, Guy Clark) handling the electric guitar parts and producer Neilson Hubbard (The Apache Relay, Matthew Ryan) doubling as the group's drummer. With Lex Price joining in on bass, the group kept things as real and raw as possible. They just plugged in and played.

"A lot of these songs explore a sense of chance, of what might happen with your life," Picott says. "Jeremiah" is the story of a soldier who doesn't home from Iraq, "Uncle John" is a look at family dysfunction, and "Alicia" is a naked telling of a romantic break. The songs come from his life, and the details tell a vivid story.

Decades ago, during his sheet rock days, Picott promised himself that he wouldn't release an album until he figured out who he was as a writer. Having a good voice wasn't enough; he needed an opinion, a perspective, an ability to turn the world around him into music. With *Fortune*, he shines a light on himself, strips bare what he found rattling around in his heart and invites the listener to follow a deeper and more intimate journey.

Fulshear House Concerts is a neighborhood concert series for music lovers and live music supporters in Fulshear and the surrounding area.

Each concert features a quality live music performance, and a suggested donation of \$20-30 per person goes entirely to the musician(s) to help support their art. House concerts have become a primary source of sustainability for many musicians in today's changing digital music environment.

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Fulshear Area Chamber of Commerce presents the **Living Well Expo**

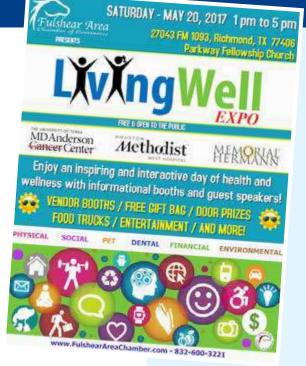
he Fulshear Area Chamber of Commerce Living Well Expo will be held Saturday, May 20 from 1-5 p.m. at Parkway Fellowship Church located at 27043 FM 1093. Richmond.

Title sponsors for this year's event include MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston Methodist West Hospital and Memorial Hermann.

Come out and enjoy an inspiring and interactive day of health and wellness with informational booths and guest speakers.

The Living Well Expo will have something for everyone with information not only on physical health but social, pet, dental, financial and environmental health as well. The event includes vendor booths, door prizes, free gift bags, food trucks, entertainment and much more.

The Fulshear chamber is still



seeking supporting sponsors and vendors for the event. Forms can be found by visiting www.FulshearAreaChamber. com.

Contact Amy Norvell at anorvell@ fulshearareachamber.com or call 832-600-3221 for more information.

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Arts Fulshear announces summer class schedule

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Registration is now open for art and theater classes, beginning June 5.



hildren in the Katy/Fulshear/ Richmond area can register now for the 2017 summer session of visual and performing arts classes with Arts Fulshear.

Classes are designed for children ages 5-16 and include art, theater, and dance.

Each camp has a unique theme – from pirates to campfire stories to super heroes and more. Camps focus on fun, creativity and confidence building through creative expression.

The Summer Theater Production is the musical Into the Woods Jr., rehearsing June 12-29 at Leaman Junior High School. Also back by popular demand is their Comic Creations art class, where students design their own comics and characters.

Classes start at \$125 per student. Members of Arts Fulshear receive a 10 percent discount on all classes. To register, visit www. artsfulshear.org.

Arts Fulshear Summer Camps 2017

Arts Fulshear will host seven sessions of stellar summer fun. All camps have been designed to incorporate components of art and theater through exciting themes. During each five-day session, your child will explore drawing, painting, mixed media and more.

Emphasis will be on creative exploration, self-discovery and artistic techniques. Each child will create his or her own unique artwork, and some projects will start one day and

carry over into the next day. This camp is designed for all skill levels – beginners are welcome. Parents are invited to enjoy a short performance on the last day of each camp.

provide music to move and groove to fun songs from yesterday and today in the smashing "Fun in the Sun" revue show.

Wonderful & Wacky Summer Fun **June 5-9** 1 - 4 p.m. **Cross Creek Ranch Community Center Ages 5-11** \$215

School's out. Come join Arts Fulshear for a wonderful and wacky week full of art and theater summer fun. The camp will feature painting funky flowers, creating tie-dye shirts, and more. The camp will

Pirate Island June 12-16 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. **Irene Stern Community Center**, Fulshear Ages 5-11 \$215

Ahoy Maties. Enjoy a swashbuckling, fun-filled week of art and theater adventures. The crew will visit mermaids down at the lagoon, seek buried treasure, learn songs all good pirates should know and even a dance a jig or



two. But beware, this camp seek only the most fearsome scallywags to join their crew.

Summer Theater **Production** Into the Woods June 12-29 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Leaman Junior **High School** Ages 8-16 \$400 Be careful what you wish for

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Continued from page 25



as Stephen Sondheim's and James Lapine's cockeyed fairytale comes to life in this adaptation of their groundbreaking, Tony Awardwinning musical.

Into the Woods Jr. features all of your favorite characters: Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack (and his beanstalk) and the Witch in this lyricallyrich retelling of classic Brothers Grimm fables.

The musical centers on a baker and his wife, who wish to have a child; Cinderella, who wishes to attend the King's festival; and Jack, who wishes his cow would give milk. When the baker and his wife learn that they cannot have a child because of a witch's curse, the two set off on a journey to break the curse and wind up changed forever.

Around the Campfire June 19-23 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. Irene Stern Community Center Ages 5-11 \$215

Campers will explore nature during and walk on the wild side in our art and theater camp. The use of natural elements will be partnered with other media as we design unique works.

Get ready to act out spooky campfire stories and maybe

even come up with your own haunting tall tale. With fun music such as "The Marshmallow Song," this camp will have little ants marching along through this fun-filled week that brings the outdoors in.

Caped Crusaders June 26-30 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. Irene Stern Community Center Ages 5-11 \$215

Attention super heroes and crime fighters everywhere – you are needed at our art and theater camp this week.

Discover super hero powers, design shields, and create a story. Cues will come from super heroes and crime fighters everywhere to go on adventures, defeat villains, solve mysteries and have a blast together.

Comic Creations July 5-7 1 - 4 p.m. Cross Creek Ranch

Community Center Ages 8-12 \$125

Back by popular demand. Dive into the world of comics with this five-day class geared towards 8-12 year olds. Students will create their own characters, learn the process of making comics and even create their own comic strips.

Urban Jungle July 31-Aug. 4 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. Irene Stern Community Center Ages 7-14 \$21

Campers enter the world of street art and will be given the opportunity to create graffitiinfluenced pieces. Using the work of nationally-recognized artists like Kenny Scharf for inspiration, students will learn about graffiti culture and the significance of public art.

Students will use materials such as chalk, pastels, paint, stencils and markers to create our masterpieces and a collaborative mural. Come ready to wear out high tops as students will dance to highenergy hip-hop hits from today: no leotards or tights required.

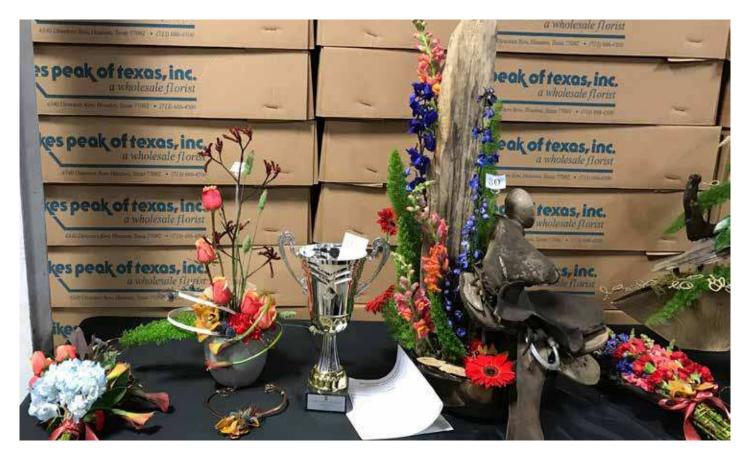


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LOCAL NEWS



Floral Designer of the Year located right here in Fulshear

ce Berry with Fulshear Floral Design and Decor located in the heart of Fulshear takes first place in this prestigious 38th annual Houston Cup competition.

The Houston Cup is an annual floral design competition for the members of Allied Florist of Houston. Floral designers compete in various categories for a chance to advance to the Preliminary Phase of the Texas State Florist Association's Texas Cup Competition.

The 38th Annual Houston Cup hosted its annual competition at Pikes Peak of Texas on Tuesday, April 11 and this year's theme "Wild Horses."

Ace is known to have extraordinary talent and strives to add that special personal touch to each unique arrangement he creates for all his customers.

The Fulshear Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to have Fulshear Floral Design and

Decor as a member and we are lucky to have such amazing talent right here in downtown Fulshear.

Fulshear Floral Design and Decor is located at 8525 FM 359 South, Suite 105 in Fulshear.



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7909 Powerline Rd. Richmond, TX 77469 Fax: 281-341-0998

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Fulshear Business Directory







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