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GREATWOOD ACTORS explain why cult classic 'HEATHERS THE MUSICAL' is ‘absolutely hysterical’

PLUS The Greatwood Geysers are prepared for the summer.
Be one of the women who does something about it. It might surprise you to know that one third of all women and half of those over 55 experience a pelvic floor disorder.*

Which is why we've assembled a multi-disciplinary team of affiliated colorectal surgeons, OB/GYNs, urologists, gastroenterologists, urogynecologists, physical therapists and more. Every day, they're tailoring plans for patients wanting to overcome incontinence, pelvic pain, prolapse and the many issues brought on by weakened pelvic floors.

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TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER
THE WOODLANDS

Get to know more about treatment options at memorialhermann.org/pelvicfloor or by calling 713.242.4PFD (4733)

* Source: American Urogynecologic Society

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Be one of the women who does something about it.

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This musical is dark. It is delicious. It is comedic. And perhaps, most importantly, its material is still relatable to teenagers today, so it is no surprise the talented actors of Inspiration Stage are eager to bring fictional characters Veronica Sawyer, J.D., Heather Chandler, Heather McNamara and Heather Duke to life on a local stage.

From June 21 through June 23 Inspiration Stage presents Heathers The Musical (High School Edition) — a PG-13 rated musical about life in high school.

Showcasing talents from young actors from around Fort Bend County and Houston, “Heathers” tells a story about Veronica Sawyer, a brainy, beautiful teenage misfit who hustles her way into the most powerful and ruthless clique at Westerberg High: the Heathers.


“Having this 80s movie come to our iStage with fabulous music, flawed characters and a deeply dark comedic flair is exciting for me and my team,” said Mandy Seymore-Sensat, Inspiration Stage’s artistic director. “Our teens are hungry for this show with its biting humor and dramatic moments.”

A CRAZY STORY WITH MODERN MOVEMENT

Annelea Bootle, who is the production’s choreographer and stage manager, completely agrees.

“I’m a total fan of the cult-classic 1988 film and an even bigger fan of the musical,” said Bootle. “The music is catchy, fun and hilarious. It’s something I’m very excited to put movement to.”

Greatwood actors reveal what they most savor about ‘Heathers The Musical’

by MARQUITA GRIFFIN
As the musical progresses, the audience will witness that before the Veronica character can get comfortable atop the high school food chain, she falls in love with the dangerously handsome new kid J.D. When Heather Chandler, the Almighty, kicks her out of the group, Veronica decides to bite the bullet and kiss Heather's aerobicized butt, but J.D. has another plan for that bullet.

“As a massive fan of the film, I think adding music and choreography lends so well to the spectacle of it all,” Bootle said. “It’s this crazy story about troubled teenagers, love, enemies and friendship that lends itself to be cheesy, hilarious, enlightening and such a blast.”

For those familiar with the film, theatre officials stress the musical is a high school edition of the story — curse words have been removed, as well as onstage smoking, drinking and R-rated sexual scenes — but it does contain mature themes that may not be suitable for young audiences. The target audience is from ages 13 years old to 18 years old.

Tickets may be purchased in advance at www.inspirationstage.com/shows, or at the door.

Bootle, who has been involved with Inspiration Stage for the past five years, said she is most interested in entertaining the audience with show’s “modern movement.”

“This, being [the high school edition of] Heathers, we will have a fully teen cast, a lot of whom have trained with us here at Inspiration Stage,” she said. “The choreography for this show is not difficult by any means, more meticulous than anything, with lots of fun, energetic moves. Lots of modern movement and things that move well on their bodies.

“We are going to have a blast dancing this show,” she added energetically.

A ‘MEAN GIRL’ WITH A KIND HEART

Greatwood’s Emma Jobes, 19, has discovered being considered a “mean girl” can be fun, well, only within the parameters of a Heathers performance. Jobes, who is currently attending University of Texas at San Antonio but will be transferring to Austin Community College in the Fall, will play the role of Heather Chandler in the musical.

“I have always loved this show and it has been a dream to perform in it one day,” Jobes said. “I love playing the mean girl. You can literally have a blast on stage just being pure evil. I love Heather Chandler because she is so interesting. [There is] definitely more to her than the surface ‘queen bee.’ The show is worth seeing because of the storyline and amazing songs, but honestly, because the cast is so talented, there’s no way it won’t be good.”

Jobes, who has been involved with Inspiration Stage since its opening in 2013, said she is excited not just because she gets to perform in Heathers, but also because she is returning from a break from acting.

“I realized how much I missed it. A passion is a passion — I guess it doesn’t really go away,” she said. “What I love most about performing at Inspiration Stage is the family vibe. No matter how long people have been there, they are automatically included and a part of the family. It’s one of the most accepting places I know, where everybody loves everybody.”

THE PERFECT PRODUCTION FOR A FINAL PERFORMANCE

Kelsey Brown began her career with Inspiration Stage in 2014 with The Snow Queen and feels satisfied that Heathers will be her final performance with the theatre.

“I have always loved both the movie and the musical, and the chance to be a part of this production along with so many talented actors is a terrific opportunity,” said the Fort Bend Christian Academy student. “As a graduating senior, it will be my last production at Inspiration Stage before I leave for college, and I’ll be working with a lot of my friends, so I couldn’t be more excited.”

Brown will attend the University of Texas and while she plans on pursuing a mechanical engineering degree, she has heart set on continuing community theatre while in Austin.

In Heathers Brown is a member of the ensemble, and “as far as ensembles in productions go, the Heathers ensemble is one of [her] absolute favorites.”

“It’s not an ensemble that’s designed for everyone to blend together into one identical mass,”

PHOTOS (TOP-BOTTOM):
Emma Jobes
Kelsey Brown
Artistic Director Mandy Seymore-Sensat

To advertise, call 281-342-4474 • 7
The Sound of Music is a piece that has proved ageless across multiple generations.

— Sarah Patterson, director

WHAT: Inspiration Stages’ Heathers The Musical (High School Edition)
WHEN: 7:30 p.m. June 21-23
WHERE: Sugar Land Auditorium, 226 Lakeview Dr. in Sugar Land

SUMMER CAMPS BEGIN JUNE 4
Inspiration Stage also offers 19 opportunities this summer for kids ages four through 18 to be on stage, performing musical theatre favorites including Peter Pan, The Little Mermaid, Annie, Madagascar, Aladdin, Hairspray, Legally Blonde, Willy Wonka, Sleeping Beauty and Winnie the Pooh.

Inspiration Stage summer camps are taught by theatre professionals with help from theatre savvy high school/college interns, most of whom have been in numerous productions with Inspiration Stage.

Camp performances have full production value, with costumes, light and sound, all performed at the historic Sugar Land Auditorium.

Registration is open now at inspirationstage.com/Summer.

Inspiration Stage is a national award-winning performance arts studio located in the historic Sugar Land Auditorium at 226 Lakeview Dr. For more information, visit www.inspirationstage.com.

Heathers director and music director Sam Brown recalls growing up in the 80s saturated with films by John Hughes — who directed, wrote and/or produced films such as National Lampoon’s Vacation (1983), Mr. Mom (1983), Sixteen Candles (1984), Weird Science (1985), The Breakfast Club (1985), Ferris Bueller’s Day Off (1986), Pretty in Pink (1986), Some Kind of Wonderful (1987), and She’s Having a Baby (1988).

And while “Heathers” is one of the few iconic 1980s films not produced, written or directed by John Hughes (“Heathers” was directed by Michael Lehmann), Brown easily considers Heathers an “important 80s piece.”

Not only is the musical “simultaneously insightful and ridiculous,” Sam said the production is “an educational opportunity and a chance to explore important themes that teenagers face.”

Heathers, Sam stressed, can be considered a conversation starter.

“I think it’s necessary to engage our students and to have conversations about serious topics like suicide and peer pressure,” Sam said. “Even though the source material may be dated, I don’t think that the importance of making sure that these discussions are encouraged can be overstated enough.”

“These conversations need to happen.

INSIGHTFUL PRODUCTION WITH SERIOUS TOPICS
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“These conversations need to happen.

Heather Duke (Madison Willett), Heather Chandler (Emma Jobes) and Heather McNamara (Maura Dooley) rule Westerberg High in the darkly delicious high school comedy, Heathers the Musical, High School Edition, based on the 80s cult classic movie. Photo courtesy of Sarah Patterson
"The Sound of Music is a piece that has proved ageless across multiple generations."
— Sarah Patterson, director
**Sugar Land Superstar Round 1**

For the 13th summer, Sugar Land Superstar returns to Sugar Land Town Square’s Plaza. The first round of American Idol-like competition will be held from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Singers will perform, with five of them being named finalists for the August competition. A previous Superstar contestant will kick start the evening’s music.

**Summer Family “Campout”**

Nature & Eclectic Outdoor’s interactive campsite will feature tents, games, s’mores and even a lawn fishing tournament. You can also practice casting a fishing pole while learning about native Texas fish or learn the right way to wear a life vest while checking out NEO’s kayaks and hybrid paddle boards. Play life-size games like 2x4 Jenga, Kerplunk, and Connect 4 or relax on the lawn with a game of checkers while listening to live music from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Sugar Land Town Square.

**NOLA Nights**

The New Orleans Hustlers Brass Band will perform from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Sugar Land Town Square, offering guests a taste of authentic New Orleans music.

**Art & Culture: History of Renaissance Art**

Former architecture professor Sheba Akhtar will talk about Renaissance Art, from the Early Renaissance period’s rebirth of classicism in 1400 to the High Renaissance period of Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, and Raphael (1490s to 1527) in Room 2A of the George Memorial Library from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Learn how Florence, Italy, became the “Cradle of Renaissance Art” and how the Medici family of merchants and bankers influenced the period by becoming patrons of Florentine art. Akhtar will also discuss the art of Masaccio, Donatello, and Brunelleschi.

**Music in the Plaza**

The Sugar Land Brass Co. will perform from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in Sugar Land Town Square.

**Lyrics & Lawn Games**

The Sugar Land Town Square Plaza will turn into a large backyard party from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. for the free Lyrics & Games event. Activities, food and live music will be featured.

**Movie Under the Moon**

Sponsored by the First Colony Church of Christ, this free Movie Under the Moon event in Sugar Land Town Square will feature the classic “Little Giants” from 8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

**Music in the Plaza**

The Sugar Land Brass Co. will perform from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

**Afternoon with an Author: Liara Tamani**

Guest author Liara Tamani will share her experiences writing and publishing her debut Young Adult novel, Calling My Name at the University Branch Library, at 3 p.m in Meeting Room 2. Published by HarperCollins’ Greenwillow Books in 2017, the novel tells a coming-of-age story of an African-American girl named Taja Brown, who juggles family expectations and spirituality while discovering her own sense of self. Light refreshments will be served. The program will appeal to teens, young adults, and adults.

** FEATURES EVENT**

Libraries Rock! Summer Reading Clubs return! Fort Bend County Libraries presents special reading clubs during the summer to encourage reading among readers of all ages. Library programs and activities begin during the week of June 4, and continue through July 28. There is no charge to join the Summer Reading Clubs and they are open to everyone, regardless of the county of residence. Participants may register at any Fort Bend County library, or they may register online by going to the FBCL website (www.fortbend.lib.tx.us) and clicking on the “SRC Sign-Up” image. When the online registration form has been completed, readers will then have their own online page on which to record their books or reading time. Reading rewards can be redeemed beginning Monday, June 4. Prizes must be collected from the “primary library of use” that the reader indicated on the registration form. The last day to pick up awards is September 1.

The Summer Reading Clubs are sponsored by Fort Bend County Libraries, the Friends organizations that support the county library system, and the Collaborative Summer Library Program, a consortium of states working together to provide high-quality children’s summer-reading materials for public libraries.

Find out more about the Summer Reading Clubs at your local library in our Library News section.
FULSHEAR AREA

BLESSINGTON FARMS | This special farm offers virtually year-round picking opportunities as well as attractions and activities for families, such as slides, rides, mazes and animal interaction.

Address: 510 Chisolm Trail, Wallis, TX 77485
Website: blessingtonfarms.com

OTHER HONORABLE MENTIONS

• Forever Fulshear Farmers’ Market | fulshear-farmers-market.business.site

KATY

Exploration Park | The design of Exploration Park is rooted in children’s play, environmental stewardship, educational principles, and an overall site design inspired by water. It also offers visitors a multipurpose play area, an open lawn for unstructured play, and a pavilion with covered picnic area. Play features include a sensory garden, multiple varieties of swings, a slide tower and bridge connecting to a hill slide, a musical bridge, and a raindrop berm lawn in which the earthwork evokes the notion of a giant raindrop ripple in the lawn. In addition, an interactive water cycle wall demonstrates valuable principles through a hands-on educational experience. The capture of rainwater from atop the picnic area’s pavilion and an arroyo, or dry creek bed, accented with native plants encourages water conservation throughout the site. Educational signage throughout the play areas further enhances the learning experience.

Address: 15020 Cinco Park Rd, Katy, TX 77490
Website: willowforkdrainedistrict.com/parks/exploration-park

OTHER NOTABLE MENTIONS

• Typhoon Texas | www.typhoontexas.com/houston
• Katy PlayStation Park | cityofkaty.com/departments/parks/parks-and-facilities-2/
• Times Square Entertainment | timessquaretx.com

NEEDVILLE

BRAZOS BEND STATE PARK | Nestled in a serene area of Fort Bend County is a park where camping, picnicking, hiking, biking, horseback riding and fishing are high on the list of things to do. The Brazos Bend State Park, which was opened to the public in 1984, covers about 5,000 acres and is home to alligators, deer, raccoons, telescopes aimed at the heavens and a mock-up of the NASA mission control center. Watch alligators sunbathe, check out the Nature Center’s exhibits or be amazed by what you see at the George Observatory and the Challenger Learning Center, also found in the park. The George Observatory, which is operated by the Houston Museum of Natural Science, is home to three large telescopes. On a clear night, visitors can catch a glimpse of star constellations and planets such as Jupiter and Venus. Camping is a major attraction for the park, and it also has a handicap-accessible nature trail and pier. Walking trails wind their way through the trees and will even lead walkers down to the edge of the Brazos River.

Address: 21901 FM 762, Needville
Website: www.tpwd.state.tx.us/state-parks/brazos-bend

ROSENBERG

ROSENBERG RAILROAD MUSEUM | The museum resembles the circa 1900 Union Depot that served Rosenberg rail travelers as they made their way through Fort Bend County. Indoor cabinets house historic artifacts, including lanterns, oil lamps, tools and photos of Rosenberg at the turn of the century. Visitors can sit at the station agent’s desk and watch the trains chug through the rail yard. Model railroad layouts are on display, an 1879 business car undergoing refurbishing, a switching station and Tower 17, the last tower in Texas that operated. The museum offers model railroad camps, children’s school and summer programs, birthday parties and more.

Address: 10215 FM 762 Rd., Richmond
Website: www.georgeranch.org

FORT BEND MUSEUM | Known as one of Texas’ best local history showcases, the Fort Bend Museum allows visitors to travel through time to experience life on the Brazos River. The museum features galleries, historic home museums, walking tours of Richmond and exhibits that interpret more than 100 years of history of the area and Texas. This award-winning museum chronicles the settlement of Fort Bend County by the “Old 500” who received Mexican land grants through Stephen F. Austin. Address: 500 Houston St., Richmond
Website: www.fortbendmuseum.org

GEORGE MEMORIAL LIBRARY | The central hub for the Fort Bend County Libraries is the George Memorial Library. The library offers a broad spectrum of services to patrons of all ages, from checking out books, videos, CD’s and magazines to searching databases and using computers. Children enjoy weekly programs and activities, including the popular Summer Reading Club. Teenage patrons are invited to activities tailored to their age range and interests. Adults can take advantage of free computer classes and computers are available for patrons or they may bring personal laptops to access the library’s Wi-Fi service. Adult readers may also enjoy participating in Book Clubs that meets monthly at all nine locations of the system. Each branch library offers special programs and incentives to encourage children to read. Call the George Memorial Branch at 281-342-4155 to sign up. All programs are free and open to the public.

Address: 500 Houston St., Richmond
Website: www.fortbend.lib.tx.us

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**Austin Zoo**
10808 Raubide Trail, Austin, TX 78736 | austinzoo.org
The Austin Zoo assists animals in need through rescue, rehabilitation and education. Located on the southwest edge of Austin, Texas, Austin Zoo draws visitors from around the world to learn about rescued animals and spend quality time outdoors in the Texas Hill Country.

**Austin Aquarium**
13530 US-183 E 101, Austin, TX 78750 | www.austinaquarium.com
Among the 35 exhibits featured throughout Austin’s newest attraction are a wide variety of amphibians, an interactive Lorikeet Aviary, and a variety of cold water and tropical fish. It also features sharks, a stingray touch tank, and a rainforest with hundreds of reptiles.

**Sugar Land**

**HOUSTON MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCE AT SUGAR LAND**
Housed in the former dormitory of the Central State Farm prison, which was built in 1939, the Houston Museum of Natural Science at Sugar Land was the result of a partnership between the museum, the city of Sugar Land and Telfair developer Newland Communities. The museum is a 43,000 square foot facility that hosts both permanent and traveling exhibits.

**Address:** 13016 University Blvd., Sugar Land
**Website:** www.hmns.org/hmns-at-sugar-land

**ESCAPE AGAIN ROOMS**
Escape Again puts your team inside a real-life adventure game. Once inside one of the themed rooms you will be completely immersed in the game. Your challenge is to solve the puzzle, beat the clock and escape in under 60 minutes. All of the clues you need are in the room. Escape rooms are the perfect team building experience or group activity. Your common goal is to escape and the only way to do that is to work together to solve the mystery. Ideal for sporting teams, work colleagues or groups of friends and family.

**Address:** 3564 Highway 6, Sugar Land, TX 77479
**Website:** escapeagainrooms.com

**SUGAR LAND TOWN SQUARE**
Home to the 1.4 acre Sugar Land Town Plaza, Sugar Land Town Square is a mix of activity appealing to children, adults, couples and family units. Shopping and playing often combine here where you can shop at the nation’s most popular retailers, spend a night watching a movie under the moon with your children or dine out with friends a local restaurants. To find out which events are hitting the plaza visit www.sugarlandtownsquare.com.

**LOOKING FOR PARKS?**
- **Sugar Land Memorial Park and Brazos River Corridor** | www.sugarlandtx.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/6
- **Cullinan Park** | www.cullinanparkconservancy.org
- **Oyster Creek Park** | www.sugarlandtx.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/13
- **Kitty Hollow Park** | www.fortbendcountytx.gov
- **Buffalo Run Park** | www.missouricitytx.gov/498/Buffalo-Run-Park
- **Willow Fork Park** | willowforkdrainagedistrict.com/parks/willow-fork-park

**FORT BEND CHILDREN’S DISCOVERY CENTER**
The Fort Bend Children’s Discovery Center is a special project of the Children’s Museum of Houston. The Discovery Center occupies a 12,000 square foot restored building and features six exhibits. It gives the Museum the opportunity to enrich the educational lives of Fort Bend’s children by expanding cultural and educational family-focused opportunities. All Fort Bend Children’s Discovery Center exhibits will be managed as platforms for learning for children birth through 12 years, with specific, measurable educational outcomes for each. Each exhibit will be focused on a quintessential childhood question such as ‘How Does it Work?’ The exhibits will reflect the requirements mandated by Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for children in grades K-6.

**Address:** 198 Kempner St., Sugar Land
**Website:** www.childrensdiscoveryfb.org

**THE BLACK COWBOY MUSEUM**
Owned by Larry Callies, heritage museum features photos, stirrups, boots and more that reveal the rich history of black cowboy. Callies has been a cowboy since he was 12 years old, and was the second black cowboy in Texas to make it to the state finals in 1971.

**Address:** 1104 3rd St, Rosenberg
**Website:** www.calliesblackcowboymuseum.org

**OTHER HONORABLE MENTIONS**
- **Jumping Zaxx** | jumpingzaxx.com
- **Escape Again**

**SUGAR LAND TOWN SQUARE**

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- **Kitty Hollow Park** | www.fortbendcountytx.gov
- **Buffalo Run Park** | www.missouricitytx.gov/498/Buffalo-Run-Park
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**Website:** www.calliesblackcowboymuseum.org

**OTHER HONORABLE MENTIONS**
- **Jumping Zaxx** | jumpingzaxx.com
- **Escape Again**
Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center
4801 La Crosse Ave, Austin, TX 78739
www.wildflower.org

Named for its creator, Claudia Alta Taylor "Lady Bird" Johnson (wife of President Lyndon B. Johnson), this center is a great place for nature lovers looking to kill time. Mrs. Johnson founded the center to educate fellow botanists about the benefits of planting and nurturing certain types of plants, a project that has revolutionized gardening habits in central Texas.

Thinkery
1830 Simond Ave, Austin, TX 78723
thinkeryaustin.org

Formerly known as the Austin Children's Museum, Thinkery offers a fun, interactive experience with a variety of unique exhibits and programs.

Zilker Botanical Garden
5737, 2220 Barton Springs Rd, Austin, TX 78746 | www.zilkergarden.org

This a soothing outdoor oasis in which to enjoy. The Oriental Garden, created by the landscape architect Isamu Taniguchi when he was 70 years old, is particularly peaceful.

OTHER NOTABLE MENTIONS
• Texas State Capitol | www.tsb.state.tx.us/plan/tours/tours.html
• Mount Bonnell | www.austintexas.gov/department/mount-bonnell
• Bullock Texas State History Museum | www.thestoryoftexas.com/

South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center
8545 S Staples St, Corpus Christi, TX 78413 | www.stcbot.org

Formerly known as the Corpus Christi Botanical Gardens and Nature Center the center is a nonprofit, 180-acre botanical garden and nature center that features exhibits and trails.

Selena Museum
5410 Leopard St, Corpus Christi, TX 78408
www.visitcorpuschristitx.org/see-and-do/882/selena-museum

Intimate memorial for Selena fans showcasing the singer’s awards and memorabilia. The Selena Museum was built by the Quintanilla family as a memorial for Selena fans and showcases many of Selena’s stage costumes, collections and memorabilia including her red Porsche.

Texas State Aquarium
2710 N Shoreline Blvd, Corpus Christi, TX 78402
www.texasstateaquarium.org

Several tanks display a variety of ecosystems found in the Gulf of Mexico and coastal Texas, from coral reefs with sharks and barracuda swimming about to jetty systems populated by crabs and flounders to East Texas swamps and their alligators.

USS Lexington Museum on the Bay
2914 N Shoreline Blvd, Corpus Christi, TX 78402
www.usslexington.com

This World War II-era aircraft carrier is a floating naval museum.

OTHER NOTABLE MENTIONS
• Padre Island National Seashore | www.nps.gov/pais/index.htm
• The Art Museum of South Texas | www.amuseumofsouthtexas.org
• Texas Surf Museum | www.texassurf.org
• Mustang Island State Park | www.tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/mustang-island
• Texas Sealive Center | www.texassealivecenter.org
• Schlitterbahn | www.schlitterbahn.com, New Braunfels, Galveston Island, South Padre

Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden
8525 Garland Rd, Dallas, TX 75218 | www.dallasarboretum.org

The Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden sits on 66 acres along the southeast shore of White Rock Lake. The property’s world-famous display gardens showcase seasonal flowers, ornamental shrubs, trees, and plant collections, while seasonal outdoor festivals and concerts, art shows, and education programs are also popular. It offers an array of popular annual events, educational programs for children and adults, and an emphasis on family-oriented activities. Ground-breaking horticultural research conducted in our Trial Gardens continues to contribute to an important body of knowledge, both regionally and nationally.

Dallas Museum of Art
1717 N Harwood St, Dallas, TX 75201 | www.dma.org

Established in 1903, this museum features more than 24,000 works including art from ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome; European art from the 16th to 19th centuries; and contemporary artists like Jackson Pollock.

Dallas World Aquarium
1801 N Griffin St, Dallas, TX 75202 | www.duazoo.com

Located within walking distance of the city’s historic downtown core, Dallas World Aquarium is an educational excursion. Housed in some 87,000 gallons of saltwater are a vast array of sea life including bonnet head sharks, stingrays, jellyfish, sea turtles, giant groupers, and rare leafy seadragons, all living in natural reef settings.

Fair Park
www.fairpark.org

This almost-300-acre area holds the largest collection of cultural facilities in Dallas. Fair Park is owned and operated by the city of Dallas and is open year-round. The State Fair of Texas is held annually at the park every autumn. Today, Fair Park stands as the only intact and unaltered pre-1950s world fair site in the United States. It boasts an extraordinary collection of 19th-century architecture.

OTHER NOTABLE MENTIONS
• Frontiers of Flight Museum | www.museum.com
• Trammell & Margaret Crow Collection of Asian Art | www.crowcollection.org
• African American Museum | www.aamdallas.org
• The Samurai Collection | www.samuraicollection.org
• Museum of Biblical Art | www.biblicalarts.org
• Cavanaugh Flight Museum | www.cavflight.org

Galveston Children’s Museum
2618 Broadway Avenue J, Galveston, TX 77550 | www.galvestonmuseum.com

This museum offers a unique hands-on environment where children explore, investigate, create and discover.

Galveston Island Historic Pleasure Pier
2501 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, TX 77550 | www.pleasurepier.com

An old-fashioned waterfront fun and entertainment area that features family-oriented attractions including rides, midway games, a wide selection of food venues and retail shops.

Galveston Railroad Museum
2602 Santa Fe Pl, Galveston, TX 77550 | www.galvestonrrmuseum.com

The museum, one of the five largest in the country, is a complex of historic facilities and unique attractions located in the downtown Strand district.

The Moody Gardens and Aquarium
One Hope Boulevard, Galveston, Texas 77554 | www.moodygardens.com

Famous for its three spectacular glass pyramids, The Moody Gardens and Aquarium is home to marine life from the Pacific Ocean to the Great Barrier Reef and the Caribbean. It also includes theme parks and other

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Texas Tour

OTHER NOTABLE MENTIONS
- Bishop's Palace | www.galveston.com/bishopspalace
- Texas Seaport Museum/ELISSA | www.galveston.com/texasseaportmuseum
- Ocean Star Offshore Drilling Rig & Museum | www.galveston.org/oceanstar
- Busters Old Time Photos Galveston Texas | www.galveston.com/busters

FORT WORTH

The Fort Worth Stockyards
130 E Exchange Ave, Fort Worth, TX 76164 | www.fortworthstockyards.org

The Stockyards National Historic District is Fort Worth’s top tourist attraction. These historic stockyards have been transformed into a splendid attraction consisting of all sorts of fun things to see, including rodeos, concerts, theatrical performances, and western-themed shopping.

OTHER NOTABLE MENTIONS
- Fort Worth Zoo | www.fortworthzoo.org
- Fort Worth Museum of Science and History | www.fwmuseum.org
- Fort Worth Botanic Garden | www.fwbg.org

HOUSTON

Space Center Houston
1601 E NASA Pkwy, Houston, TX 77058 | spacecenter.org

One of the state’s most popular tourist attractions, the center is home to NASA’s Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center and Mission Control, the monitoring center for the agency’s manned space flights. Get a look into the operations of the world’s largest space program, with many exhibits, film shows, models, astronaut-related artifacts, and samples of moon rock on display in the Visitor Center.

The Museum District
1001 Bissonnet Street, Houston | www.mfab.org

The Museum District is one of Houston’s greatest cultural attractions, with 19 museums—11 of these are free to the public. Some of the highlights include the Museum of Fine Arts, the Houston Museum of Natural Science, the Children’s Museum, the Menil Collection, the Holocaust Museum and the Contemporary Arts Museum. Also in this area are Hermann Park, with the Houston Zoo and the Miller Outdoor Theatre. Most of the museums are within easy walking distance of each other, although the Menil and the Rothko Chapel are a little farther out. Museums that are free of charge include: The Menil Collection, Rothko Chapel, Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, Lawndale Art Center; Houston Museum of American Culture, Rice Gallery, Houston Center for photography, and the Czech Center Museum Houston.

USS Texas (BB-35)
3523 Independence Pkwy, La Porte, TX 77571 | battleshiptx.org

USS Texas (BB-35), the second ship of the United States Navy named in honor of the U.S. state of Texas, is a New York-class battleship. The ship was launched on 18 May 1912 and commissioned on 12 March 1914. This historic ship served in both World Wars & is open to the public for self and guided tours.

Houston Arboretum and Nature Center
183 West Loop S, Houston, TX 77024 | houstonarboretum.org

The Houston Arboretum and Nature Center is a non-profit 155-acre urban green space offering nature trails, exhibits, workshops & events in various habitats.

Discovery Green
1500 McKinney St, Houston, TX 77010 | www.discoverygreen.com

Park with live music, public art, restaurants, playground, pond for kayaking and exercise classes.

OTHER NOTABLE MENTIONS
- Lone Star Flight Museum | www.lonestarflight.org
- Children’s Museum of Houston | www.cmohouston.org
- Menil Collection | www.menil.org
- Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens | www.mfab.org/visit/bayou-bend-collection-and-gardens
- ArtCar Museum | www.artcarmuseum.com
- Holocaust Museum Houston | www.hhm.org
- Jillie and Hugh Roy Cullen Sculpture Garden | www.mfab.org/visit/cullen-sculpture-garden
- Mercer Arboretum and Botanic Gardens | www.hcp4.net/community/parks/mercer
- Houston Zoo | www.houstonzoo.org

SAN ANTONIO

The DoSeum | San Antonio’s Museum for Kids
2800 Broadway, San Antonio | www.thedouseum.org

San Antonio’s children’s museum offers a terrific, creative introduction to the city for the pint-size and grown-up alike. San Antonio history, population, and geography are all explored through such features as a miniature River Walk, a multicultural grocery store, a bank where kids can use their own ATM, and even a miniature dentist’s office. Activities range from crawl spaces and corn-grinding rocks to a weather station and radar room.

The River Walk
www.thesanantonioriverwalk.com

The San Antonio River Walk is the number one tourist attraction in Texas after the Alamo. It’s a public park open 365 days a year that is filled with a stretch of canals and paths that snakes through Downtown San Antonio. Tour boats, water taxis, and floating picnic barges regularly ply the river, and local parades and festivals fill its banks with revelers. It also features restaurants, bars, shops, picturesque bridges, live music — the perfect setting for a family outing or intimate date.

San Antonio Museum of Art
200 W Jones Ave, San Antonio, TX 78215 | www.sanmuseum.org

Located on the River Walk in San Antonio, this museum has large collections of ancient Mediterranean art, Asian art and Latin American art with a notable contemporary collection.

San Antonio Zoo
3903 N St Mary’s St, San Antonio, TX 78212 | sazoo.org

Operated by San Antonio Zoological Society, this zoo is a non-profit organization committed to securing a future for wildlife. It features 750 species (from alligators to zebras), cageless habitats, exhibits and a train.

Witte Museum
3801 Broadway St, San Antonio, TX 78209 | www.wittenmuseum.org

This museum features touring and long-term exhibits about natural history, art, and Texas heritage, plus there is a Science Treehouse.

OTHER NOTABLE MENTIONS
- The Alamo | www.thealamo.org
- San Antonio Missions National Historical Park | www.nps.gov/saan/index.htm
- Natural Bridge Caverns | www.naturalbridgecaverns.com
- San Antonio Japanese Tea Garden | www.sanantonio.gov/parks
- Morgan’s Wonderland | www.morganswonderland.com
- San Antonio Fire Museum | www.sanantoniofiremuseum.org

LOOKING FOR PARKS?
- Big Bend National Park | www.nps.gov/bibe/index.htm
- Longhorn Caverns State Park | www.longhorncaverns.com; Burnet
- Guadalupe Mountains National Park | www.nps.gov/gumo/index.htm
Greatwood Geysers ready for the summer

The Greatwood Geysers swim team is preparing for another summer of swimming and excitement.

This is the team’s 16th year as part of the Southwest Houston Recreational Swim League, the Geysers continue to emphasize good sportsmanship, team pride and competition with an emphasis on having fun along the way.

2018 GEYSER BOARD
President: Rebecca Cox
Vice President: Terry Lyons
Secretary: Chip Smith
Treasurer: Constance Ritter
Registrar: Betty Brown
Volunteer Coordinator: Chris Keenen
Sponsorships: Debbie Buckner

PRACTICE TIMES
Through June 8
Ages 6 & Under 5:50 pm
Ages 7 & 8 5:30 - 6:10 pm
Ages 9 & 10 6 - 6:40 pm
Ages 11 & 12 6:30 - 7:20 pm
Ages 13 & 14 7:10 - 8 pm
Open (ages 15 and up) 7:10 - 8 pm

SWIM MEETS
The Geysers will host 2 two home meets this season. The schedule for the season is listed below.
Please note that our first meet will occur before our swimmers are out of school this season.
June 4 - AWAY Swim Meet vs. New Territory Tarpons
June 11 - HOME Swim Meet vs. Long Meadow Farms Stars
June 18 - HOME Swim Meet vs. First Colony Gators
June 25 - AWAY Swim Meet vs. Pecan Grove Piranhas
July 2 — AWAY Swim Meet vs. Sugar Land Sharks

MEET OF CHAMPIONS
Meet of Champions will follow the same format as last season. The date and times are still pending final league approval but we anticipate that the meet will occur on July 7. Awards will be given to 1st- 16th place. You must compete in two dual meets to be eligible to swim at the Meet of Champions. All-Stars will take place on July 10, 2018.

SWIM SUITS
We will be teaming up with D & J sports this year to provide for all of your equipment needs. This season we will be asking all swimmers to purchase new team suits. D & J sports will be onsite the first week of practice for suit fittings.

BOARD POSITIONS
Are you looking to become more involved with the Geysers? The Geysers will be seeking several new board members for next season. Please contact Betty Brown if you are interested in serving on the board.

CREW LEADS
We are still in need of crew leads for ribbons, tents, and the webmaster position. If you are interested, please contact Chris Keenen.

VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS
Please be on the lookout for the volunteer signup email coming soon.

SPONSORSHIP
If you or your company is interested in becoming a Geysers sponsor this year, please contact Debbie Buckner.

If you have any questions you can contact any board member. To stay in the know, subscribe to our remind text messages by texting @gwgeyser to 81010 or visit our Facebook page and website www.greatwoodgeysers.swimtopia.com

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Post Hurricane Harvey Projects Ongoing

Sugar Land City Council recently approved agreements with Fort Bend County Levee Improvement District No. 11 and the Greatwood Community Association for access to drainage infrastructure.

The agreements are part of ongoing citywide efforts to ensure optimal performance of storm water drainage infrastructure, including all inlets, catch basins, storm manholes, pipes and outfalls. This maintenance includes routine inspection, cleaning and replacement.

Routine maintenance and targeted drainage projects are important to protect Sugar Land during extreme weather events. Completed projects in areas north of U.S. Highway 90A and the Sugar Creek Subdivision protected homes and businesses during Hurricane Harvey, the most extreme rain event in U.S. history.

An analysis of Hurricane Harvey’s impact on Sugar Land, along with other past major rain events, is available at www.sugarlandtx.gov/HarveyAnalysis. Approximately 230 homes flooded during Hurricane Harvey, with up to 6 inches of water entering homes in the areas of Settlers Park and Chimney Stone.

Since the hurricane, Sugar Land City Council approved a joint study with Fort Bend County Levee Improvement District #2 which has been completed and has also approved the following drainage studies that are currently in progress:

- River Bend, Plantation Bend, Plantation Colony and Magnolia Plantation subdivisions and Oyster Creek (between Dam #3 and Dulles Avenue).
- Elkins Road and Knightsbridge Boulevard.
- Settlers Park, Chimney Stone, Austin Park and Sugar Lakes subdivisions.
- Lakebend, Sugar Creek Subdivisions and the New Territory/Chatham Avenue intersection.

City staff continues to work closely with residents in the affected areas to ensure the drainage studies include extensive public outreach and engagement.

A Brazos River erosion study is also in progress. The objective of this study is to survey critical areas of the Brazos River in the City of Sugar Land, make predictions on bank erosion, perform analysis of risk and consequences and make recommendations on regulatory actions. The project is to be completed by April 2018 and is being coordinated with Fort Bend County.

City engineers continue to evaluate drainage design standards and code requirements intended to protect residents from extreme rain storms. City staff is also working closely with levee improvement districts, entities that provide important protection from the Brazos River. The LIDs are evaluating current infrastructure and taking actions to enhance flood protections.

Maury Kost rode her 300 hp Kawasaki Ninja from her home in Burlington, Vermont, to Greatwood this week to visit her brother Ray Kelley and wife Austa Sue. The 75-year-old grandmother traveled through 11 states on her five-day journey down South. The first two days were bitterly cold followed by sweltering heat, she recalled.

Science is sweet in Sugar Land.

The Houston Museum of Natural Science at Sugar Land is your destination for learning. Visit the Hall of Paleontology, explore gems and fluorescent minerals, observe weather phenomena in real-time with Science on a Sphere, and more!

theHoustonMuseumofnaturalscience

www.hmns.org At Sugar Land
The Fort Bend Museum’s Moore Home was surrounded with guests sporting floral dresses, giant derby day hats, colorful headpieces, pastel-printed bow ties and even little toy horses racing around the brims of their hats.

It was the museum’s Derby Day Garden Party last month honoring Mary Jane Kubelka Kocurek, a Lamar Consolidated ISD product, who has volunteered as a docent with the museum since 1975.

“If you’re here today, you’re probably either a relative, a friend or you worked with Mary Jane, because Mary Jane has been very active in the community all her life,” stated Claire Rogers, Fort Bend History Association executive director.

“...But I encourage you to take a little time to get to know Mary Jane. She serves on the board of the Fort Bend History Association. She serves with the libraries, the Friends of George Memorial Library.

“I get my yearly membership renewal from the library and it always comes from Mary Jane with a little note: ‘You know we need your support,’’ Rogers shared with a laugh.

“She’s great about financially supporting the things she cares about and encouraging others to do the same.”

Rogers pointed to the rose bushes adorning the Moore House. “This garden, Mary Jane supported that with funds and work to do it in honor of her husband William.”

Mary Jane, who graduated from the University of Houston in elementary education, taught fifth grade and served as a librarian for more than two decades at Lamar CISD.

During that time, Mary Jane opened libraries at Crockett and Lamar junior high schools.

“We appreciate everything Mary Jane has done with the association and for our community in Fort Bend [County],” Rogers concluded.

Mary Jane thanked Rogers and accepted the recognition “on behalf of all the women and men who have given countless hours..."
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of time and talent to the Fort Bend Museum over the past 46 years, since the museum opened in 1972.”

“When Rosemary Buddecke and I joined the museum docents in the 1970s, it was a mere fledgling of a museum,” she recalled. “The Moore Home, a gift from the Moore family, was in need of much loving care.”

Over 45 years of Mary Jane’s association with the Fort Bend Museum, it has grown to include the George Ranch, Decker Park, the McFarlane House, the Fort Bend Archeological Society, the Texian Time Machine, and the historic Dew House.

“Over time, the museum docents have welcomed thousands of students from area schools to get a glimpse of what life was like in the early times,” she described.

“Richmond is so rich in Texas history. Students visiting here are given snippets of life with Jane Long, Mirabeau B. Lamar, Deaf Smith and many more.

“Our continuing progress is enlarging the scope and depth of Fort Bend history, as it serves the public daily, and is in the hands of progressive leadership. I am proud to be part of that leadership.

“Also, the young people in my family who are here will experience the results of my work in the community.

“May we all leave a footprint for future generations.”

Greatwood Veterinary Hospital

At Greatwood Veterinary Hospital, we are dedicated to providing excellent and compassionate care for your furry, family friends. We offer full veterinary services in our new, spacious 6,500 square foot facility. Our experienced and caring veterinarians and staff strive to provide the best quality care available for your pets, with an emphasis on client education and an understanding of your pet’s specific needs. We would like to be partners with you in ensuring your pet’s good health and well-being. In addition to full medical, surgical, and dental veterinary care, we also offer boarding, grooming, and cremation services. Greatwood Veterinary Hospital has been providing affordable and quality veterinary care to the Fort Bend area for over 15 years. It is our hope that we can meet all your animal’s health care needs with our warm, friendly, and knowledgeable services.

To make an appointment for your pet or for more information, please call us at (281) 342-7770 or visit us at 401 Crabb River Road in Richmond.

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Children’s Theater To Perform “Goldilocks”

In celebration of the 25th anniversary of the First Colony Branch Library, Fort Bend County Libraries will present a children’s theater performance by The Magik Theatre of “Goldilocks and the Three Bears” on Saturday, June 9, at 2 pm, in the Meeting Room of the library, located at 2121 Austin Parkway in Sugar Land.

This family-friendly performance is adapted from the classic children’s tale about a young girl who takes a walk in the woods and soon becomes very interested in a particular house. She lets herself in, helps herself to a bowl of porridge, takes a relaxing “break” on a chair, and unwinds with a nap on a bed. Little does she know, she’s inside a house owned by a family of bears! Will she wake up from her nap before the bears come home? Will she stay for dinner, or will she BE dinner?!

This fun-filled version of the classic story includes bilingual elements as well as lessons about being true to oneself and respecting others. The performance is recommended for families with children of all ages.

The performance is presented with the generous support of the Friends of the First Colony Branch Library.

First Colony Branch Library originally opened in June 1993. The 19,400-square-foot building was designed by architect Brooks Associates for Architecture and Planning, Mark A. Stewart, Design Architect. It was the second of the four new branches built with bond-election funds voted for in 1989.

Opening with a capacity for 95,000 items, it quickly grew to become the busiest of all of the library system locations at that time. It continues to be one of the most widely used libraries in the system.

The performance is free and open to the public. For more information, call the First Colony Branch Library at 281-238-2800 or the library system’s Communications Office at 281-633-4734.
Fort Bend Symphony Orchestra Presents Summer Sessions

Is your cello gathering dust in the closet? Are you tired of moving around the flute you played years ago in high school? Are you looking for a fun way to spend a couple of summer days? FBSO’s Summer Sessions program is for you.

The program is open to adults, high school and advanced middle school students who can read music and play an instrument or sing.

Summer Sessions is a two-day intensive, and fun, clinic, allowing musicians to play alongside members of the Fort Bend Symphony Orchestra. The clinic runs from June 23 through June 24 at Clements High School, 4200 Elkins Road in Sugar Land.

FBSO added a choral component this year, so participants may also sing along with the Fort Bend Symphony Orchestra Chorus.

Sessions run Saturday afternoon from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. and on Sunday from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. with a free, and open to the public, final concert from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Music on this year’s program offers both entertainment and challenge, including selections from the classics such as George Gershwin’s American in Paris, Georges Bizet’s March of the Torreadors, The Circus Band by Charles Ives and two compositions by Verdi.

Summer Sessions is made possible in part by Ecolab and the City of Sugar Land.

Participant applications and more information about the 2018 FBSO Summer Sessions program are available online at http://fbso.org/summer-sessions.
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SPECIAL EVENTS

Foundational Financial Planning
Financial analyst and net worth investor Marcus Ford will talk about prudent steps that one can take to establish a solid financial foundation. Hear about obstacles that one may encounter – such as having an inadequate funding plan, prolonged need of resources, or rising healthcare costs – and learn about solutions to these impediments. Ford will also discuss the five types of life insurance and the specific purposes of each one. Wednesday, June 6, 6:30 pm, Meeting Room 2.

SCORE: Small-Business Tax Workshop
SCORE mentor Greg Vernon will provide an introduction to taxes and basic accounting practices for entrepreneurs or anyone considering starting a new business. Get tips on the best way to set up a company, and hear about different accounting software programs that can be helpful for running a small business. Learn about the different accounting reports and tax forms that are required, and when the paperwork should be completed and submitted. Vernon will also discuss the different federal, state, and franchise tax liabilities, and how to estimate taxes that will be required. Friday, June 8, 10:30 am, Meeting Room 1.

Senior Series: Decluttering Your Home
Liz McNeel, a senior real-estate specialist and certified senior-housing professional, will lead a panel of experts who will share tips on how senior citizens can downsize, remove clutter, and create a more organized and personally satisfying space in which to live. Learn about the emotional and physical aspects of de-cluttering and get practical strategies for getting started. Friday, June 15, 10:30 am, Meeting Room 1.

Culinary Book Club
This month, the theme is “Food of Our Fathers.” In recognition of Father’s Day in June, share dad’s favorite foods or dishes to celebrate the holiday. Cooking enthusiasts of all ages and experience levels – from beginners to advanced – are invited to join. Those attending are welcome to bring their own cookbooks and recipes,
or they may browse the library’s collection of cookbooks. Share tips, get ideas, and enjoy the camaraderie of other individuals who have an interest in cooking and good cuisine! Meets on the third Wednesday of every month; different cooking genres are explored each month. Wednesday, June 20, 1:30 pm, Meeting Room 1.

College Fair

Representatives from colleges and universities will be on hand to share information about their programs with current high school students and their parents or guardians during this come-and-go event. Students will have the opportunity to learn about educational opportunities available at the colleges, as well as admission requirements, financial aid, student housing, and more. Schools from Texas that will be represented include Sam Houston State University, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Texas Women’s University, University of Houston – Clear Lake, University of Houston – Downtown, University of North Texas, University of Texas at Dallas, and University of Texas at Tyler. Colleges from outside of Texas that will be represented include University of Denver, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, University of Missouri, University of South Alabama, University of Tampa, and University of Tennessee. Thursday, June 22, 1:00-3:00 pm, Meeting Rooms 1 and 2.

Summer Reading Clubs

Summer Reading Club for Children

Children from infancy through elementary school-age are invited to come to the library to read a lot of great books, see some exciting programs, and join in some fun activities to kick off a great summer. Children are encouraged to read as many books as they can and they will earn rewards based on the total number of books they read or have read to them. For the first five books read, the child will receive a bookmark. The rewards continue with a certificate for 10 books, a pencil for 15 books, and a reading trophy for the first 20 books read. For every 20 books read, the participant’s name will also be written on a picture of a drum to be displayed in that branch library. The names of participants will be entered into a drawing for gift cards from area stores — donated by the Friends of the Library organizations — that will be awarded to several lucky readers of 20 books or more, in a drawing scheduled in August at each library location.

Middle School Summer Challenge

Area youth in grades 6-8 can participate in the SRC by logging online the time they spend reading. Kids are encouraged to read as many books as they can, and they will earn rewards based on the total amount of time they spend reading. For the first 10 hours (600 minutes) of reading, each reader will receive a mystery prize. Upon completion of 20 hours (1200 minutes) of reading, readers will receive a trophy. The names of participants who complete 20 or more hours of reading will be entered into a drawing for a $25 gift card — donated by the Friends of the library — that will be awarded to one lucky reader at each branch library in a drawing that will take place in August.

Summer Reading Club for Teens & Adults

Adults of all ages, including young adults in high school, may participate in the YA & Adult SRC by reading books and participating in optional weekly “challenges” that can be completed individually at home online. Completing the challenges will gain readers additional entries for the drawings for an FBCL mobile power pack that will take place twice a month in June and July at each branch library for readers who log in and record their reading each week. All YA and adult readers who complete the goal of reading five books will earn a dual highlighter/pen or a geometric coloring bookmark. In addition, the names of participants who complete at least five books will be entered into a drawing for a $25 gift card — donated by the Friends of the library — that will be awarded to one reader at each branch library in a drawing that will take place at the end of July. An ultimate grand prize will be awarded to one lucky reader in the library system. Participants in the YA/Adult Summer Reading Club who complete the program by reading five books will be entered into a drawing for a 16 GB Fire HD 8 tablet with a red case, which will be awarded to one winner in the library system on August 6. The last day to pick up awards is September 1.
BOOK CLUB
The book to be discussed is The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics, written by Daniel James Brown. New members invited to attend. Wednesday, June 13, 7:00 pm, Conference Room 1.

CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS

These programs are intended for teens in grades 9 - 12

YA Program: Bullet-Journal Basics
Teens in grades 9-12 will discover how a bullet journal can be used to keep ideas and tasks organized. Featured on Instagram, this popular task-based system uses a notebook, pen, and set of symbols to keep track of schedules, assignments, and life in general. Materials for this event are provided courtesy of the Friends of the University Branch Library. Thursday, June 14, 2 pm, Meeting Room 2.

YA Program: Are You Smarter Than a Librarian?
Teens in grades 9-12 can pit their wits and knowledge of useless information against a crack team of librarians. A variety of topics will be selected by both students and staff. The three top-scoring teens will win a prize, provided through the generous support of the Friends of the University Branch Library. Thursday, June 28, 2 pm, Meeting Room 1.

Fort Bend Foot Center

Dr. Brian W. Zale, DPM, FACFAS
Readers’ Choice Winner for Best Podiatrist in Fort Bend Three Years in a Row!

“My sincerest thanks for your vote of confidence!”

Dr. Brian Wm Zale DPM., FACFAS, a board certified foot and ankle surgeon in Sugar Land, Texas, is a podiatrist who has been serving the Rosenberg, Richmond, and Sugar Land community for over 30 years. We specialize in foot and ankle surgery, heel pain, bunions, diabetic foot conditions, and all other related concerns to the foot and ankle. Our staff is committed to providing the finest podiatric care in a warm and friendly environment in order to make you feel relaxed and comfortable.

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www.brianzale.com

Dr. Zale has been chosen four times by Fort Bend Herald readers as Best Podiatrist in the annual Readers Choice poll.
during the day time. Wednesdays at 7 pm

_Rise & Shine Family Story Time_

Families with children of all ages are invited to come and enjoy stories, movies, and crafts together. Saturdays at 10:30 am. This activity will NOT take place on June 2.

_This summer, the library will have special Family Programs—activities for families with children of all ages—on Mondays, beginning at 2 pm. These programs are made possible by the generous support of the Friends of the University Branch Library. The library is not able to accommodate daycares or school groups at these activities. The June schedule is as follows:_

- **June 4** – **Nutty Loud & Noisy Sounds Show** (presented by Nutty Scientists of Fort Bend). In this fun-filled program, learn about the science of sound.

- **June 11** – **Reading Rocks with Socks and Fox!** (presented by Julian Franklin). This exciting magic show pays tribute to American author and illustrator, Theodore Seuss Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss.

- **June 18** – **Friendship Black-Light Puppet Show** (presented by Jean Kuecher). This fun marionette show teaches the qualities of being a good friend.

- **June 25** – **Free-Play LEGO® Day**. Get creative with LEGO building blocks! There will be different-sized LEGO pieces for the varying ages in attendance.

_Middle School Programs, which are designed for youth in grades 6 through 8, take place every Tuesday, beginning at 3 pm, in the summer. These programs are made possible by the generous support of the Friends of the University Branch Library. The library is not able to accommodate daycares or school groups at these activities. The June schedule is as follows:_

- **June 5** – **Stories that Soar** (presented by Houston Audubon Society). Hear stories and legends from around the world about famous and infamous birds. Meet live birds while going back in time to discover fact and fiction about feathered friends. Seating is limited, so arrive early.
• June 12 – Movie & Masks. This animated children’s movie from 2004 features the voices of Craig T. Nelson, Holly Hunter, and Samuel L. Jackson. Bob Parr and his wife, Helen, were the world’s greatest crime-fighting superheroes in Metroville until they were forced to adopt civilian identities and retreat to the suburbs to live a “normal life” with their three children. After muddling through the corporate world as a paunchy, emotionally unsatisfied insurance-claims adjuster, Bob grasps at the chance to return to their crime-fighting adventures when he receives a summons to appear at a remote island for instructions on a highly classified assignment. He soon discovers that it will take a super-family effort to rescue the world from total destruction. This film is rated PG: Those attending this program will also have an opportunity to create their own superhero mask to take home!

• June 19 – Knick-Knack Know-How. Explore a variety of art crafting, such as origami, accessorizing school supplies, and more!

• June 26 – Bang, Clap, Ding! Rockin’ at the Library. Musical instruments will be made from recycled materials. Participants will work together to play simple songs from childhood, using the instruments made in the program.

The University Branch Library is located at 14010 University Blvd in Sugar Land, on the UH campus. All of its programs are free and open to the public. For more information call 281-633-5100.
School Supplies For The 2018-2019 School Year
Order your school supplies for next year (2018-2019) and skip the hassle of shopping for each item on the supply list! The supplies are delivered to the classroom before school starts.

DEADLINE TO ORDER IS JUNE 24, 2018!
School code: CAM077
To order visit: www.educationalproducts.com/ShopPacks/

### 2017-18 Campbell Elementary Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Events</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/5/18</td>
<td>Talent Shows</td>
<td>8 a.m. - 5th grade (schoolwide); 9:30 a.m. - 4th grade (2nd, 3rd and 5th attend); 1 p.m. - 3rd grade (K, 1st &amp; 4th attend)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/6/18</td>
<td>5th Grade Pool Party Rain Date</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/7/18</td>
<td>Last Day of School</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/7/18</td>
<td>Report Cards Go Home</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/7/18</td>
<td>5th Grade Awards</td>
<td>8 - 9:30 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/7/18</td>
<td>Graces K - 4th Awards/Parties (Rotation)</td>
<td>K - Pizza: 11 - 11:30 a.m.; Awards: 10:30 - 11 (Gym) 10:30 - 11 a.m.; Awards: 11 - 11:30 a.m. 2nd - Pizza: 11 - 11:30 a.m.; Awards: 11:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. 3rd - Pizza: 11:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.; Awards: 12 - 12:30 p.m. 4th - Pizza: 12 - 12:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/7/18</td>
<td>4th Grade Lemonade Wars</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/12/18</td>
<td>Monthly PTO Board Meeting</td>
<td>Time TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Cougar Store is open regularly the first and third Friday of each month. The store opens at 7:00 a.m. and closes at 7:30 a.m. Days are subject to change - check out the Campbell PTO Facebook page and signs in the car ider line for reminders for Cougar Store days!

or up-to-date information throughout the school year, please refer to the weekly paw prints distributed by Mrs. Koerth.

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Lamar CISD enters Memorandum of Understanding with Nanjing

Go to your map of the world and locate The People’s Republic of China. On the coast of the East China Sea, you will find Shanghai. Slide about 200 miles due west and you will locate the city of Nanjing. Stick a pin in the map designating another Asian city that has sent educators to Lamar Consolidated School District.

Teachers and school officials from Nanjing visited Ryon Middle School, Reading Junior High and George Ranch High School.

“It was a great opportunity for our Lamar CISD schools to showcase our highly successful career and technology programs with a focus on math, science and engineering skills,” said Leslie Haack, Lamar CISD’s Executive Director for Secondary Education.

Representatives of the Nanjing Municipal Education Bureau of the People’s Republic of China co-signed a memorandum of understanding between Fort Bend County and Nanjing.

Lamar CISD Superintendent Dr. Thomas Randle and Fort Bend County Judge, Robert Hebert cosigned the MOU for Fort Bend County. Both parties agreed to future educator exchange opportunities including a collaborative partnership designed to further develop teaching and learning skills among teachers from both countries.

This is the third group from Asia to visit Lamar Consolidated ISD. Prior exchanges include the George Ranch and Terry high schools’ student and staff exchange with Foshan, China and the Foster High School - Dong Gang High School in Ping Tung, Taiwan student and staff exchange.

Photos by Diana Nguyen

1 ‘Grace Ferrell,’ played by Reading Junior High School eighth-grader Claire Mangum, comforts ‘Annie,’ played by seventh-grader Alina Garcia, with Oliver Warbucks — played by eighth-grader Caleb Hall.

2 From left, are characters July, Kate, Duffy, Tessie, Pepper and Molly, played by Reading Junior High School theater students Sanaa Whiting, Larkin McCardle, Sofia Velasquez, Hannah Rice, Gabriella Champion, and Angelina Chable, respectively, singing “You’re Never Fully Dressed Without A Smile.”

3 From left, Rooster Hannigan — played by Oliver Jansen, and Lilly St. Regis — played by Ananya Gokul, share their mischievous plan to become rich with Miss Hannigan — played by Alyssa Clark.

4 Oliver Warbucks, orphans Kate, Tessie, Grace Ferrell — played by Caleb Hall, Larkin McCardle, Hannah Rice, and Claire Mangum, respectively — among other characters, sing “Tomorrow.”

Advertise with us!

If you are interested in advertising in the New Territory Monthly, please call the Fort Bend Herald at 281-342-4474 for rates, information and deadlines.
HOUSTON METHODIST CARDIOVASCULAR SURGERY ASSOCIATES

Houston Methodist Cardiovascular Surgery Associates is pleased to welcome Dr. Jean Bismuth and Dr. Charlie Cheng to the Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital campus. These board-certified vascular surgeons offer a full scope of surgical and minimally invasive endovascular options to treat diseases of the vascular system.

Their level of expertise combined with access to state-of-the-art technology at Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital, allows for rapid diagnosis and treatment of vascular conditions, and better long-term outcomes for patients.

To schedule an appointment, call 713.352.1820.
Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital is offering the community a proven program to help people quit smoking.

The complimentary program, called Beat the Pack®, was developed by Pfizer Inc. and is sponsored by Houston Methodist Sugar Land Respiratory Therapy Department and Cancer Center. The next four-week series is scheduled to start on July 3, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Houston Methodist Sugar Land’s Main Pavilion Conference Room A.

Participants will meet once a week for four weeks with a trained facilitator from Houston Methodist Sugar Land who will provide tools, tips and support to help smokers create and follow through with a personalized “quit plan.”

“Studies show that close to 70 percent of smokers in the U.S. want to quit,” said Amy Sebastian-Deutsch, director of oncology and infusion therapy services. “But it typically takes a smoker between six and 11 attempts at quitting to finally succeed. Beat the Pack is a proven program that can greatly increase those odds and make it easier to give up cigarettes for good.”

Even long-term smokers can benefit from quitting. “The health benefits of quitting begin almost immediately and continue indefinitely,” said Dr. Sindhu Nair, a board-certified hematologist oncologist with Houston Methodist Oncology Partners at Sugar Land. “Within months, former smokers will have improved circulation and reduced blood pressure, enhanced oxygen flow, the return of taste and smell and less coughing and colds. After a year, their risk of heart disease will be reduced by half. After 10 years of living without cigarettes, the risk of heart attack or cancer is similar to that of someone who never smoked.”

In 2015, a thorough compilation of more than 50 smoking cessation studies that included more than 25,000 participants found that combining behavior support in a group setting with medication provides the best results.

“It isn’t easy to quit, and certainly it is more difficult to do so by yourself,” said Sebastian-Deutsch. “Beat the Pack provides all the tools and support needed, and it does so in an informative, friendly atmosphere that offers encouragement and camaraderie.”

The four-week program will be offered each quarter in Main Pavilion Conference Room A at Houston Methodist Sugar Land. Registration is required and space is limited. For more information or to register, visit houstonmethodist.org/events and search for Beat the Pack, or call 281.205.4514.

Visit our Facebook page at fb.com/methodistsugarland for the latest news, events and information.
Making sure your body is ready to support a healthy pregnancy is an essential part of pregnancy planning. "Addressing modifiable risks and making dietary changes can have a measurable benefit for mom and baby," said Brandi Compton-Joseph, M.D., obstetrician-gynecologist (OB-GYN) with Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital. "The benefit is not just for the first baby, but for all subsequent babies, too. Putting the effort in up front can mean an important pay-off in your children's health."

So is your body baby-ready? Answer these questions to find out.

**Do you smoke?**

"The number one change a woman should make before she gets pregnant is to stop smoking," Compton-Joseph said. "Smoking can cause low birth weight and premature birth. Your baby is also at greater risk for asthma and ear infections if smoking occurs in the home."

**Are you taking folic acid?**

Inadequate folic acid intake is linked to spina bifida and other birth defects, many of which occur before a woman even knows she's pregnant. "Before you start trying to get pregnant, take folic acid to build up a reserve," Compton-Joseph said. She recommends taking 0.4 milligrams of folic acid or 4.0 milligrams if you have a family history of spina bifida. Taking a prenatal vitamin ensures that you're getting optimal nutrition, and it will meet the folic acid needs for most women.

**Do you exercise regularly?**

Developing the habit of regular exercise before pregnancy makes it more likely you'll continue to exercise during and after your pregnancy. "Exercise can help to not only get you back to your previous weight after delivery but, more importantly, decrease your risk of gestational diabetes, hypertension, aches and pains caused by the pregnancy along with postpartum depression," Compton-Joseph said.

**If you have a chronic medical condition, is it under control?**

Seizure disorders, diabetes, high blood pressure and asthma are examples of chronic conditions that may impact your pregnancy. "Often the medications for chronic conditions can impact the fetus, so it's a good idea to work with your doctor to create a plan," Compton-Joseph said. A preconception consultation with your OB-GYN can help you determine how to best handle chronic conditions during pregnancy.

For more information on the Houston Methodist Childbirth Center at Sugar Land, visit houstonmethodist.org/childbirth-sl or call 281.274.7500 to find a doctor in your area. Visit our Facebook page at fb.com/methodistsugarland for the latest news, events and information.

**PONDERING PREGNANCY SEMINAR:**

If getting pregnant is a matter you are seriously considering, don't miss our expert panel discussion about your preparation for a healthy pregnancy. Join us at 6 p.m. on Thursday, June 21 at Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital's Brazos Pavilion Conference Center. Registration is required. For more information or to register, visit events.houstonmethodist.org/pondering-sl, or call 281.274.7500.
N ew technology in implantable cardioverter defibrillators (ICDs) is now available at OakBend Medical Center.

Dr. Siddharth Mukerji of EP Heart implanted the first Resonate™ ICD designed to not only shock a patient out of a life-threatening rhythm but can also give physicians important information to potentially reduce heart failure readmissions.

Developed by Boston Scientific and validated by the MultiSENSE study, the Resonate ICD includes HeartLogic™ Heart Failure Diagnostic which was shown to have a 70 percent sensitivity in detecting a potential heart failure exacerbation with an average of 3-day advance notice. HeartLogic™ combines data from five physiological sensors evaluating heart sounds, heart rate, respiration, activity levels and thoracic impedance collected through the implantable device into a composite index of the patient’s risk of an approaching heart failure event.

“This device, in addition to the regular pacing and defibrillation capabilities it also has this physiologic module where based on certain parameters we can predict, if you will, the onset of heart failure. That is really important because we can catch it in time, we can treat it in time and prevent admissions and hospitalization for heart failure exacerbation,” said Dr. Mukerji. “I think the key with this device is the way it is programmed and the features it uses. I don’t think any other device offers this and I think OakBend is fortunate that they chose this modality of therapy for their patients, I think they will be better served overall.”

“This will cut down readmission rate because it is capable of predicting congestive heart failure (CHF) or heart failure early with the monitoring system. With the high readmission rate of patients with CHF, this is a good alternative that will hopefully cut down on readmission rates,” added Dr. Mayank Parikh, Cardiologist, whose patient was the first patient in Fort Bend County to have the implant.

If the ICD were to go off, the cardiologist would receive an alert. Depending on the alert, it can mean that the patient will need to go to the hospital or that the device will be monitored for a period of time. The physician will call the patient, and will explain that he received and alert and speak to the patient to determine the next step. While there is no age requirement before the device will be implanted, it will be used for patients that need a defibrillator and have CHF.

OakBend Medical Center was the first to sign the contract for this new device. “The HeartLogic Diagnostic provides physicians the ability to pivot from reactive heart failure treatment to proactive care with a goal of improving patient outcomes and reducing heart failure-related hospitalizations,” Kenneth Stein, M.D., senior vice president and chief medical officer, Rhythm Management and Global Health Policy, Boston Scientific, said in a statement announcing FDA approval of the device.

“We believe the new features included in this family of devices offer physicians an unprecedented level of confidence when caring for patients with heart failure.”

ACCESSHEALTH
—Heated Competition at AccessHealth's Community Challenge—

The competition was fierce at the 6th Annual Community Challenge Tournament.

Six softball teams, six kickball teams and four fajita cook-off teams competed for championship titles. The most heated competition of the day was the kickball tournament.

Returning champions Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital fought hard to defend their title, but Community Health Choice came out on top. Memorial Hermann Sugar Land won the softball championship, and the following cook-off teams took home Championship trophies: City of Richmond for 2nd Place in the specialty category; When Pigs Fly for 2nd Place in the steak category as well as the People’s Choice Award; AccessHealth for 1st Place in the specialty category; and Niagara Bottling for 1st Place in the steak category.

The event, held at Missouri City’s Community Park, raised funds to provide integrated health services for the low-income and uninsured in Fort Bend County and surrounding areas.

Sponsors included Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital as the Challenge Champs Underwriter and the City of Missouri City as the Home Run Sponsor.

Also supporting the event were Community Health Choice as a Sizzling Hot Sponsor; Allegiance Bank, Corgan/Jones | Carter/Rogers-O’Brien, Medical Search | Healthcare Recruiter Becky & Dennis Parmer and Memorial Hermann Sugar Land as Dugout Sponsors; and Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Sugar Land and the City of Richmond as Umpire Sponsors.

In addition to the tournaments, attractions included a raffle and children’s activities. Proceeds will help AccessHealth provide healthcare to families and individuals who would otherwise likely go without the medical care they need.

“Thank you to our Honorary Chairmen, Grady Prestage, Fort Bend County Commissioner Precinct 2 and Vincent Morales Jr., Fort Bend County Commissioner Precinct 1, for your participation,” said AccessHealth CEO Mike Dotson. “Congratulations to Community Health Choice, Memorial Hermann Sugar Land and Niagara Bottling for winning top honors in their brackets. Thank you to the City of Missouri City, all our generous sponsors, the players and all who came out to support AccessHealth’s mission of increasing access to quality healthcare.”

With clinics in Richmond, Stafford and Missouri City, AccessHealth provides adult and pediatric medical care, dental and mental healthcare, HIV and nutrition services regardless of patients’ ability to pay.

Currently 99 percent of AccessHealth patients are considered low-income, and 57 percent are uninsured. AccessHealth is the only provider in Fort Bend offering comprehensive healthcare services for a sliding scale, discounted fee.

AccessHealth is a United Way agency, and the main clinic in Richmond is recognized as a Patient-Centered Medical Home by the National Committee for Quality Assurance. For more about AccessHealth services or upcoming event sponsorship opportunities, please contact Sharonda DeBose at (281) 633-3144 or sdebose@myaccesshealth.org.
Happy Summer!

ON VACATION WORD SEARCH

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

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