

School's Out *in Katy!*



Katy Education Section



Handing Over The Reigns

Dr. Leonard Merrell
Begins His Retirement



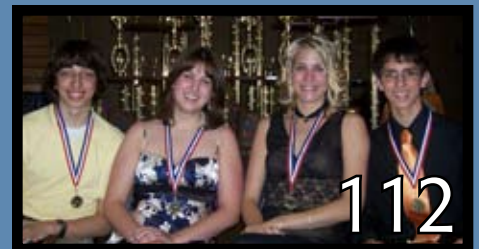
Terrific Teachers Shine Bright in KISD

Katy ISD Recognizes 2006—2007
Campus Teachers of the Year



MRHS First Grads

The Class of 2007
Steps Out Into the World



School Happenings

A Look Back at the
2007 School Year

"Best Mojitos in Katy & Houston."

guayaba

LATIN GRILL & BAR



Paella
Valenciana



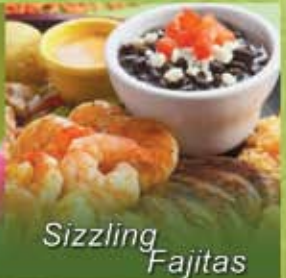
Live Salsa Band
& Dancing



Ceviche de
Camarones



Mojito
Mondays



Sizzling
Fajitas

"An exquisite and tasteful blend of Latin food in a casual setting."

Chef's Selections

Pollo Guayaba - Chicken breast stuffed with shrimp and spinach and topped with our signature creamy guava sauce.

Churrasco Encebollado - Grilled skirt steak topped with sautéed onions and bell peppers.

Ropa Vieja - Cuban hand-pulled beef slowly cooked to perfection.

Pescado con Salsa de Coco - Plantain crusted mahi mahi topped with cream of coconut sauce.

Pollo con Crema de Jalapeño - Grilled chicken breast marinated in herbs and spices topped with a jalapeño cream sauce.

Pernil con Salsa de Pina - Grilled pork tenderloin marinated in citrus juices and topped with a pineapple sauce and pineapple chunks.

Pescado a lo Macho - Mahi Mahi topped with a seafood cream sauce with shrimp, calamari and mussels.

Parrilla Argentina - Argentine grill with sizzling skirt steak, marinated chicken breast, pork tenderloin, beef short ribs and Argentine chorizo.

Paella Valenciana - Spanish saffron rice slow-cooked with shrimp, fish, calamari, mussels, chicken and sausage.



Martini Bar



Sunday Brunch
Buffet



Margarita
Thursdays



Celebrate
With Us



Catering

CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICAN CUISINE

North Westgreen @ Park Row | 1603 N Westgreen Blvd #110, Katy, TX 77449
Phone: 281.829.2555 | Fax: 281.862.7131

www.GuayabaGrill.com

HANDING OVER THE REIGNS

After 12 years as Katy ISD's Superintendent, Dr. Leonard Merrell Looks Forward to Retirement and More Time with His Family

quality time with his ever growing family. Both of his sons, Mark and Brian, are expecting new daughters soon. For Merrell and his wife of 38 years, Linda, these new granddaughters will double their brood of grandchildren. "I'm going to spend more time with mother and dad, and my sons, and grandchildren. The greatest joy in our lives has really been with our kids and our family—the ability to grow with them and see them do well and be successful," he says.

Future Priorities and Goals

He says his sons have only seen him work and are looking forward to see how their dad handles retirement. "My life has always been busy; that's why some people are wondering if I can do this retirement business or not," he says. "We'll see."

Given Merrell's restless nature, he does plan to return to work down the line.

"I won't be a superintendent again, but I will work in education. It's what I know. I've worked in education for 39 years," he says. "I haven't made any deals with anyone at this time, but I will see what comes along."

However, this August, as the school buses start rolling here, he will tentatively be on a trip to Prague for a meeting as a board



In a large office in the middle of the Katy ISD Administration Building, sits a slender, grey-haired, true Texan working toward his soon-to-be exit. Yes, Dr. Leonard Merrell, the man who has had all the plans is soon retiring from his 12 years of managing Katy ISD.

Although many have speculated that his retirement is due to his bout with prostate cancer or a recent surgery on his arm, he confirms that this is not the case. "There was one thing that crystallized this issue, which made it clear as a bell," he says. "That was simply that if I worked one more year, I needed to make it a three year commitment. In this district there are points along the future that certain things happen. In 2009, we have to have another bond issue. It wasn't fair, in my mind, to the district to not make the commitment to do the things that need to be done."

Focusing on Family for Awhile

Merrell, who has only been absent from the job a handful of times over his 12 year tenure is looking forward to a break. And first on his retirement agenda is a fishing trip with his 90-year-old father and an attempt at rejuvenating his golf game. "I'm going to hit golf balls until my hands are too sore to hit golf balls anymore," he jokes.

He is also looking forward to spending

Enriching Lives... One Child at a Time
A Preschool for Whole Child Development

Our certified teachers understand the way children develop and learn.
We consider the strengths and interests of each child and create a balanced program that will enrich your child's future.

- Part-Time & Full-Time
- Nationally Recognized Curriculum
- Spanish, Dance & Gymnastics

- Low Student to Teacher Ratio
- Healthy & Safe Environment
- Bridge to Kindergarten

**Katy's Early Childhood
Enrichment Center**



Enroll Now for Fall!
281-693-1999
www.katyceec.com
25403 Kingsland Blvd
(Located behind Katy Mills Mall)

© 2007 Katy Magazine

member of Junior Achievement Worldwide. "I have never been overseas before, besides Jamaica, and traveling is something to look forward to. There are still a lot of places in the United States we haven't seen," he says.

Career Peaks and Katy Challenges

Merrell's career in education started with teaching science and then, after earning his masters degree, progressed to becoming a school principal and business manager in Garland. During his time in Garland, he worked on his doctorate, which he received in 1984. His path, which took him to Sulphur Springs and Texas City as superintendent, then led him to Katy ISD in June 1995.

His time in Katy ISD has been riddled with challenges in district growth. Since his first year as superintendent, the district has more than doubled in size, and funds to accommodate the growth have been a major issue. Dealing with the rapid growth, the lack of dollars that go along with that rapid growth, and accountability have all been Merrell's focus. What makes these issues particularly challenging, however, is that they are all changing all the time. "There are just not enough dollars to do the things we need to do; it takes money," he says. "We know lots of things that we'd like to do, but you have to figure out how to them and still balance the budget."

Hiring Quality Educators

He considers one of his biggest dealings in Katy ISD to be the work he has done with fellow employees. "I feel really good about having the opportunity to hire some really good people to work in the

district. I'm also really proud of the work our instructional department has done with our automated curriculum. We were able to stay the course and continue to improve the process and the system that we have now. It will only get better."

In fact, as he reflects on his long career, Merrell believes that his peers working in education will be what he remembers most. He believes that even those he may disagree with have brought quality to the district and ultimately made him a better administrator. "Always there are events and issues, but the challenges helped me to grow," he says.

Because of the size of Katy ISD, the new superintendent must be prepared to deal with many distinct challenges. One budding challenge they will confront is the changing face of the district. "We will probably be a majority minority district in two years. That changes about 2% every year," Merrell says.

Handing Over the Reigns

The new superintendent, Alton Frailey, was recruited by Bob Thompson of Beaumont, the same recruiter who brought in Mer-

rell. According to Thompson, the Board looked for someone who shows successful experience as a consensus builder, seeks input from all parties, improves academic achievement, and is effective in a diverse community. "The top 12-15 candidates went through a screening interview with me," he says. "Once those were completed and the references had been checked, I came up with a list of 3-5 candidates and nominate them to the Board."

According to Thompson, each nominee was then interviewed by the Board with a set of standard questions as well as unscripted questions. "Once the Board identified Frailey as its top candidate, they announce their decision and then, by law, had to wait at least 21 days before officially hiring him. That space of 21 days allows the public and the media to check into the background of the candidate," he says.

Because of the size of KISD, the Frailey must be prepared to deal with many distinct challenges. One budding challenge he will confront is the changing face of the district. "We will probably be a majority minority district in two years. That changes about 2 percent every year," Merrell says.

*Fine Latin Cuisine
in Katy*

**Palma
de Cera**

Latin Cuisine

Bandeja Paisa Churrasco
Ceviche Empanadas
Boricuan Steak

2004 S. Mason Road
281-392-3800
Monday through Thursday 11:00 am-9:00 pm
Friday and Saturday 11:00 am-10:00 pm
Sunday 11:00 am-8:00 pm

Bring this ad in for 15% discount.

© 2006 Katy Magazine

Building Relationships and Enriching Lives

TENNIS CAMPS

Monday through Thursday

9:00 am to 1:00 pm

\$150 per weekly session or \$50 per day
(Lower Price for Falcon Point Members)

Call for more details or to register!

281-392-8431

Kids' Summer Day Camps

Sign up now! Spaces fill fast!



THE CLUB AT
FALCON POINT

A Private Country Club

A Member of the ClubCorp Family

GOLF CAMPS

Tuesday through Friday

9:00 am to Noon

\$135 per weekly session

(Lower Price for Falcon Point Members)

Call for more details or to register!

281-392-2582



Have Fun & Make Friends



Learn to Play Like a Pro

281.392.7888 24503 Falcon Point Dr. (Located in the Falcon Point Estates Neighborhood) Katy, TX 77494

©2007 Katy Magazine

www.FalconPoint.com

We want to be your family dentist in Katy!



We provide all phases
of dentistry from full
smile makeovers to
routine cleanings.

Our team is committed to providing a professional yet relaxed atmosphere where we can treat patients the way that we would want to be treated. We value the relationships with our patients and one another to create a true family practice.



Joey Hall D.D.S. Family Dentistry

21703 Kingsland Boulevard
Suite 104, Katy, Texas 77450

281-398-3432

Email: info@drjoeyhall.com
Web: www.drjoeyhall.com

© 2006 Katy Magazine

Taking the Reins

Alton Frailey joins Katy ISD as the New Superintendent

Frailey Fast Facts:

Age: 45

Last Job: Superintendent of DeSoto ISD near Dallas since 2005

Prior Work Experience: Superintendent of Cincinnati Public Schools from 2002-2005; Trustee on the Cypress Fairbanks ISD School Board

Education: B.S. and M.Ed. degrees from Stephen F. Austin

Selected From: 24 candidates

Notable: First African American to serve as superintendent of Katy ISD

Family: Wife, Aneesa Frailey; three children: Alana (16), Anderson (13), and Austin (9)

Hometown: Nacogdoches, TX

Katy Community Makes Job Worthwhile

Despite the challenges that come along with the job, Merrell values his time with the district. "I've been proud to be superintendent of schools for Katy and I've always taken a lot of pride in being a part of this district wherever I go," he says. "I've enjoyed it and I think this is the best 'superintendency' to have in the state. I firmly believe that; and it's been that way because of the people and the community," he says.

Nevertheless, he says he is ready to hand over the reigns to somebody new. "I plan to walk out of here and never get in his or her (new superintendent) way. I will advise them only if they want to be advised. I've had my time."



Shetye Cypher resides in Katy with her family and teaches journalism at Mayde Creek High School.

Paying too Much for Your Electricity?

With Ambit Energy, you can save as much as 20% every month.
No cost to switch. No contract.

Easy online enrollment at <http://leantrich.goambit.com>.



Lee and Joyce Antrich - 832-368-0994

© 2007 Katy Magazine

Nominate Your Top Teacher

We will be resuming our INSPIRE Teacher Awards after summer. Tell us your favorite teacher by emailing us at: editor@katymagazine.com.

Change the way you Experience Water Forever

The Most Advanced Water Purification System in the World.

- No cartridges
- No chemicals
- No salt



Safe and Delicious



For a Healthy Family

Products for natural and healthy lifestyles... just for you!

www.livingh2otech.com 832-330-5745

Livingwater Technologies

© 2007 Katy Magazine

ConGRADulations!

Mom and Daughter Both Celebrate Graduations

Mary Castellucci graduated the first time in 2002 with her Bachelor's degree at the same time her twins graduated with the first graduating class of Cinco Ranch High School. Upon completing her BS, she went on to obtain her teaching certification, masters of education and finally a masters of counseling. Recently she graduated from The University of Houston while her youngest daughter Katie graduated from CRHS. Mary taught speech at CRHS for three years and has run the KOLA lab at Seven Lakes High School since its inception two years ago. She will be the Academic Coach and PALS teacher for Seven Lakes in the fall of 2007. Katie is heading to Southern Methodist University in the Fall where she will study dance.



Katie and Mary Castellucci



SCENTCHIPS
The Finest in Home Fragrance

Mention this ad and receive a FREE Gift!

- Lasts Up To Five Years as a Potpourri
- Simmering lasts 140 hours and covers a 3,000 square foot area
- Over 70 Fragrances to choose from or blend and create your own fragrance

Located at
Time Square Plaza
402 W Grand Parkway South, #139
Katy, Texas 77494

281.34SCENT or 281.347.2368

www.scentchipskaty.com

OLYMPIC LEVEL TAE KWON DO

KIDS • ADULTS • FAMILIES

Top Level Training

Experienced Masters from top Korean Martial Arts Universities.

We Pamper Waiting Parents

Watch as you workout on treadmills, lift weights or relax and watch tv in our comfy lobby. Enjoy our outdoor seating area with pond, soccer field, swing and play area for siblings and students.

Large, New Facility & Work Out Area

Brand new 10,000 sq.ft location conveniently located at Mason Rd. & Highland Knolls (behind HEB).



Head Master Lee has a Master's in PE from the U of H. He also has a Tae Kwon Do degree from the Martial Arts College, Yong In University.

(281) 599-8000

© 2006 Katy Magazine



We Get Down To The Dirt!

Carpet Cleaning & Repair
Water Extraction Experts



BMF CARPET CLEANING SERVICES

- Truck Mounted Steam Cleaning
- Carpet, Tile & Grout Cleaning
- Deep Cleaning & Stain Removal

Enjoy our Fast & Friendly Service!

Available 7 days a week
(with 24 hour emergency service)

713-972-5501

©Katy Magazine



Terrific Teachers Shine Bright in Katy ISD

Katy ISD Recognizes 2006—2007 Campus
Teachers of the Year

As our Katy ISD teachers take a much deserved hiatus this summer, we would like to announce the 45 teachers who were recently selected by their teaching peers as 2006-07 Campus Teacher of the Year. The teachers were honored at a school board meeting and reception in April at the Katy ISD Education Support Complex.

“Individuals who are selected as Campus Teacher of the Year demonstrate day-in-and-day-out the hard work and dedication it takes to provide students in Katy ISD with the quality education they deserve,” Merrell says. “While they have been selected by their peers as the best, they are representative of the quality teachers we have in each and every school here in Katy ISD.”

Campus Teachers of the Year have the opportunity to be selected as either District Elementary or Secondary Teacher of the Year. Both Campus and District Teachers of the Year will be honored next fall at a banquet sponsored by the Katy Chamber of Commerce.

ELEMENTARY TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

Alexander Elementary
Jennifer Perez

Fielder Elementary
Lynn Margolis

Hutsell Elementary
Susan Stuart

Bear Creek Elementary
Lisa Schmalhausen

Franz Elementary
Randi Watson

Katy Elementary
Sherron Frost

Cimarron Elementary
Pam Brisse

Golbow Elementary
Josette Snead

Kilpatrick Elementary
Taylor Munro

Crech Elementary
Stephanie Nady

Griffin Elementary
Deborah Ambros

King Elementary
Rebeca Gibson

Exley Elementary
Cindie Faldyn

Hayes Elementary
Shirleen Watkins

**Mayde Creek
Elementary**
Kim Wisener

Katy Custom Bridal & Tuxedo

© 2007 Katy Magazine

**AFFORDABLE CUSTOM PROM DRESSES
DESIGNER TUXEDO RENTALS FROM \$49.⁹⁵
EXPERT ALTERATIONS ON PROM DRESSES**

5502 1ST STREET • KATY, TEXAS • 281-467-3035

**MON.-FRI. 10-3, SAT. 10-2
EVENINGS/SUNDAYS BY APPOINTMENT**



Dr. Merrell, Theresa Fallwell, and Karen Ladner, Schmalz Elementary

Sundown Elementary

Paulette Speyrer

West Memorial Elementary

Rebecca Caffrey

Williams Elementary

Thomas Miller

Winborn Elementary

Karen Byrd

Wolfe Elementary

Casie Lemaster



Steve Pontius of CRJH

McRoberts Elementary

Susanna Redditt

Pattison Elementary

Beverly Cragg

Memorial Parkway Elementary

Leslie Baker

Rhoads Elementary

Bruce Brouillard

Nottingham Country Elementary

Debra Sweeney

Rylander Elementary

Karin Roberts

Schmalz Elementary

Theresa Fallwell



Mary Tawney at KJH gets a surprise visit



Thomas Miller (2nd from left) is Williams Elementary's Winning Teacher

Call
281.347.7865



$\frac{7}{8}$

Register
for Summer
Programs Now!

Math that makes sense to kids

Mathnasium of Cinco Ranch

Pre-K through 12th Grade

Your kids will love it!

23930 Westheimer Pkway

@ Commercial Center Blvd.

(across from Super Target)

www.mathnasium.com

MATHNASIUM[®]
The Math Learning Center

visualize
MATH

JUNIOR HIGH TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

Beck Junior High
Ashly Darnell

Beckendorff Junior High
Kristi Sikes

Cinco Ranch Junior High
Steven Pontious

Katy Junior High
Mary Tawney

Mayde Creek Junior High
Cari Morgan

McDonald Junior High
Darin McConnell

McMeans Junior High
Jennifer Sarria

Memorial Parkway Junior High
Sarah Heston

Morton Ranch Junior High
Elizabeth Hull

West Memorial Junior High
Cara Darrow

HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

Cinco Ranch High School
Tracy Wade

Katy High School
Amy Pritula

Mayde Creek High School
Betty Willis

Miller Career Center
Marlys Jaime

Morton Ranch High School
Cliff Scrogin

Opportunity Awareness Center/ School of Choice
Kathleen Zaritski

Seven Lakes High School
Scotty Johnson

Taylor High School
Harriette Reap

Special thanks to Marcie King for compiling this list of outstanding teachers

Know A Top Teacher?

Nominate him or her for INSPIRE!

If you know a fantastic teacher who did not make the list, tell us about him or her! Katy Magazine will be resuming our INSPIRE Teacher Awards starting in the Fall. Nominate your favorite teacher by emailing a paragraph or two about why that teacher is special. Your inspirational teacher may be featured in an upcoming issue of Katy Magazine and will be presented with a community award. Email editor@katymagazine.com.



The AutumnGrove Cottage philosophy is to significantly improve the quality of life and care for those with Alzheimer's and related dementias while honoring the resident for the person they are today and who they were yesterday. We focus on optimizing their individuality, strengths and abilities. The one-story "Cottage", with 16 private rooms, also provides for a more homelike, intimate atmosphere that encourages personal relationships between the residents, resident families and our caregivers.

For more information regarding our services and to learn more about what makes AutumnGrove Cottage the right choice contact us at 713-870-1393 or visit us on the web at [www. AutumnGroveCottage.com](http://www.AutumnGroveCottage.com)

UNIQUE ALZHEIMER'S CARE

"Our purpose is to honor our residents and those that love and care for them"

KATY
21803 Oak Park Trails Drive
Katy, TX 77450

CHAMPIONS
8733 Eastloch Drive
Spring, TX 77379

CY-FIAR/COPPERFIELD
8524 Copperbrook Drive
Houston, TX 77095

THE WOODLANDS
5000 W. Alden Bridge Drive
The Woodlands, TX 77382



Home Loans Big & Small

Make your homebuying
dream a reality.



CHRISTIAN
BROTHERS
FINANCING

21308 Provincial Blvd., Katy, TX 77450

281-293-9111

www.cbfinancing.com

*Poncho and Charlie of Katy say get out
of the dog house and into your dream house!*

© 2006 Katy Magazine
Photo by Osbourne Photography

© 2007 Katy Magazine

Relaxation for the Soul

Bella Salon and Day Spa
2004 S. Mason Road, D-1
281-392-7676 • www.bellaspaonline.com

Ask us about our monthly specials

*Always
and
Forever*

Banquet Hall & Theme Party Rental

Weddings, Receptions, Proms, Fund Raisers,
Church Functions, Anniversaries, Theme Parties,
Corporate Events, School Functions or any
Other Special Events.

281-492-9000

www.alwaysandforeverofkaty.com

19416 Park Row # 120 Houston, TX 77084



Morton Ranch High School Sends its First Graduating Class Out Into the World

Students Reflect on the Time Spent Helping Shape Katy's Fifth High School

MRHS Class Officers, Trey Williams, Caroline Murrell, Brittney Bussell (1st Salutatorian), Brandon Ortiz (1st Valedictorian) and Tiffy Bryant

In 2004, a new opportunity presented itself to students of both Mayde Creek and Katy High Schools. To some it was scary, and to others- a second chance at a first impression. These students discovered that they would be among the first to graduate from Katy ISD's fifth high school, Morton Ranch.

Students Speak Up

"I was pretty excited in junior high when they announced that they would be building the school. I hated the fact that three generations of my family had graduated from Katy High. I wanted a chance to pave my own way- not follow theirs," says varsity cheerleader and wrestler Amanda Wilson.

Senior Reba Mammen, however, had different views about the transfer. "At first, I was really afraid because I had just gotten the hang of Katy," she says. "I had finally found the great friends and rhythm I wanted, but I don't regret coming here. It was a new experience that, thankfully, came together and ended well."

Some students feel the move even aided them academically and opened more doors to them. "Everything at Mayde Creek was set

to routine. With Morton, everything is new and fresh. The chances to be in clubs, join sports, or activities were greatly enhanced," says Daniel Ruiz.

Senior Andrew Solomon agreed saying, "I'm grateful to be at Morton for the academics. I've had the most amazing teachers who truly seem to care, such as Ms. (Helen) Hunt, Ms. (Jane) Hoskins, Mr. (Kevin) Hall, and Ms. (Lauri) Crestani. These people went beyond the simple job of 'teaching' everyday."

Paving the Way for Future Mavericks

One regret that most students seem to share is the downside of not having a long established school. "I wish we could have had a larger budget for things such as the MRHS literary magazine, *Chrysalis*, which I am an editor of," Ruiz says. "Having a cover in color for it would have been very exciting. So maybe they'll start a fund-raiser for it or something in the future."

Having more funds for events such as Prom and Project Grad are also benefits that older schools have. Morton Ranch had to come up with more creative ways to raise money for these projects. "I do



Keep Your Cool This Summer.

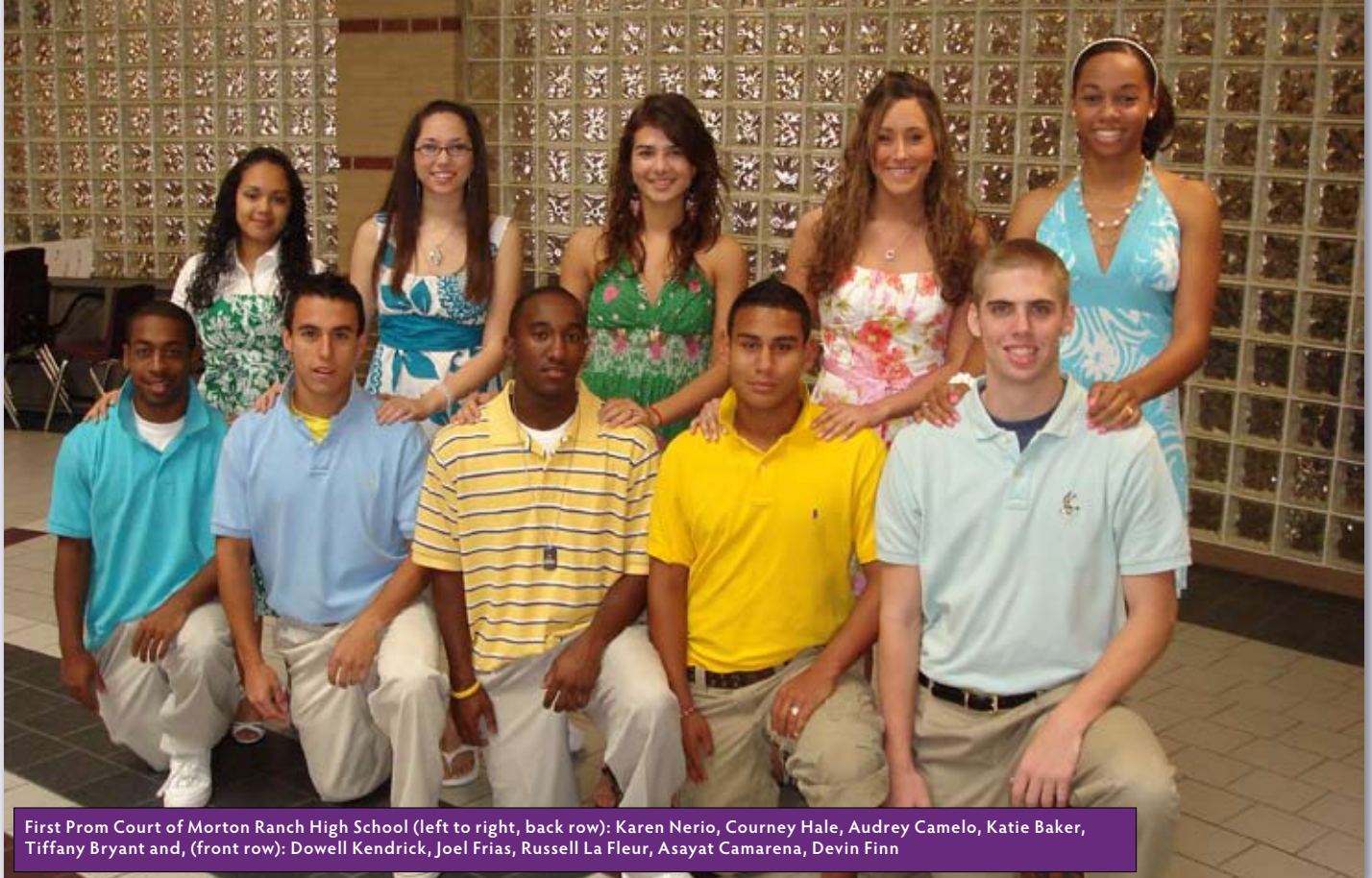
Get the electricity plan that also gives you tune-ups
for your A/C system – for one great price.

It's a one-of-a-kind service that's only from Direct Energy.

SAVE UP TO 20% MORE ENERGY THIS SUMMER.*

With the Direct Energy Prevention Plus Plan,[™] you get a fixed price on your electricity, plus tune-ups of your A/C system to keep it running at top efficiency. And that may have you saving up to 20% on your energy usage. Visit the Direct Energy store at 1133 S. Mason Rd., Katy, TX 77450 to learn more.

Go to directenergy.com/cool or call 281-816-5271.



First Prom Court of Morton Ranch High School (left to right, back row): Karen Nerio, Courney Hale, Audrey Camelo, Katie Baker, Tiffany Bryant and, (front row): Dowell Kendrick, Joel Frias, Russell La Fleur, Asayat Camarena, Devin Finn

wish that we had had our freshman year to raise money for Project Graduation, just to make sure we got the full experience of graduating safe. We did a great job for the time we had, though,” Wilson says.

A Tight-Knit Senior Class

Senior Jon-Wesley Schyma, a member of the band Scepticynic, professes his gratefulness to MRHS for their fan-base and the support and encouragement that they need. “The opening of a new school came at a perfect time for my band to grow with it and the populous,” he said. “Morton has helped all amateur musicians with activities such as Fudfest, Mavriety, and Mavricken Idol. They were also nice fundraisers for future band projects. I’m excited to have helped start these traditions of enriching MRHS’s future.”

But all students, no matter their background or expertise, seem to agree on one thing--that they were proud to be Mavericks and satisfied about where their pasts have brought them. From the green and white of the Creek and the white and red of Katy, Principal Joe Cammarata and the rest of the Morton Ranch administration have helped students create a home of purple and white.

Chelsea Cassel sums up the majority of the class of 2007’s feelings. “Being the first graduating class empowered us to set a positive example for the students that follow. We truly set the standard for all of the future Mavericks to come.”

Contributing writer, Jessie Roberts, is among the first alumni of Morton Ranch High School, Class of 2007.



THE MOST MEMORABLE DAY OF YOUR LIFE DESERVES AN EQUALLY MEMORABLE PLACE.

It's the day you've dreamed about since childhood. At the AAA Four-Diamond Omni Houston Hotel at Westside, we can make it as magical as you imagined. We offer elegant reception spaces, beautiful accommodations, and exceptional food and beverages for virtually any size affair.



What's more, our team of professional consultants provides extraordinary personal service and an attention to detail that ensures everything goes as planned. So you can relax and enjoy your big day from "Dearly Beloved" to "Bon Voyage." For availability and more information, call 281-558-8338.

OMNI HOUSTON HOTEL WESTSIDE
Luxury That's Surprisingly Sensible.

13210 Katy Freeway, Houston, TX 77079
281-558-8338
www.omniwestside.com

"Highest in Guest Satisfaction Among Upscale Hotel Chains, Two Years in a Row"
Omni Hotels received the highest numerical score among upscale hotels in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2005-2006 North America Hotel Guest Satisfaction Index Study™. 2006 study based responses from 42,211 guests measuring 13 upscale hotels and measures opinions of guests who stayed in a hotel between January and June 2006. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of consumers surveyed between March - June 2006. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com.

Preserve your families treasured moments with a portrait from

West Houston Photography.com

On Location* Family Portrait Special

Save \$50.00
On Any
Portrait Package



Call today to
make your
appointment
(281) 371-2401

*location must be within a 20 mile radius of Katy, Tx.
mileage and location fees will apply to locations greater than 20 miles

Special Introductory Offer!

→ TWO 3 or 5-GALLON BOTTLES

→ ONE CASE OF .5 LITER BOTTLES (24/Case)

FREE!

When you sign up for at least 1 year of home delivery service and purchase two 3 or 5-Gallon bottles.

Call Today!
1.800.4.WATERS
www.Sparkletts.com



se habla español



Introductory offer valid for new customers only with approved credit. Offer requires one year water service and dispenser rental agreement or three year water service only agreement. Minimum purchase of either one 3 or 5-gallon bottle or one case of .5 liter bottles (24/case) per billing period required. One-time purchase of two 3 or 5-gallon bottles at sign up required to receive two 3 or 5-gallon bottles and one case of .5 liter bottles free with initial delivery. Refundable bottle deposit and a variable Energy Surcharge apply each billing period. Early cancellation fee applies. Offer available for a limited time and only in certain areas. Dispenser selection subject to availability. ©2007 DS Waters of America. All rights reserved.

Julies Cakes

For The Celebrations of Life

Cakes for all Occasions

- Graduations
- Birthdays
- Showers
- Weddings



Katy
Welcomes
Julies
Cakes!

In Katy
23730 Westheimer Pkwy.
Near Super Target
281-347-7773

In Missouri City
3424 FM 1092
In Township Center
281-261-8229

www.juliescakes.net

© 2007 Katy Magazine



THS

Griffin Book Drive a Hit

Recently, the Star of Destiny Chapter and Griffin Elementary School participated in a book drive benefiting A. A. Milne Elementary. The Kindergarten Classes at Griffin Elementary collected more than 900 books suitable for students in Kindergarten through 5th grade. These books were donated to the library at A. A. Milne Elementary. The books will be used to supplement a summer reading program designed by Ms. Cole to foster the love of reading in her students.



FES

Franz 3rd Graders Year of Giving

During the school year 2006- 07 3rd Grade class at Franz Elementary collected \$4000 worth of canned goods, 300 coats for the children of Mosul, Iraq, school supplies, shoes, and goodie bags for the children in an elementary school in Baghdad. They also collected 400+ bags of microwave popcorn and 100 movies to send to the soldiers of the 1st Cavalry Division deployed to Iraq and donated \$1000 worth of toys to give to local children during the holiday season.

NEW YORK PIZZERIA

Pasta. Sandwiches. Salad.

Catering for Large Companies and Special Occasions.
★ Delivery and Takeout ★

© 2006 Katy Magazine

20900 Katy Frwy. (Westgreen at I-10) ★ (281) 599-7492 ★ www.nypizzeria.com



KHS

On Her Way to West Point

Alexandra Bradshaw recent graduate of Katy High School, member of the National Honor Society, Captain of the Girls Wrestling Team, 3rd Place State Wrestler, member of Westland Baptist Church, daughter of Richard and Theresa Bradshaw recently received the honor of the appointment to the U.S. Military Academy, West Point.



CRJHS

Cheers to Cinco Ranch Junior High!

Congratulations to the 2007-2008 Cinco Ranch Junior High 8th Grade Cheerleading Squad. L-R, Sydney Machalec, Morgan Prejean, Darby Allen, Melanie Mozer, Katie Steger, Lindsey Vines, Hannah Rousseau, Tara Brennan, Karina Jalomo, Meghan Robertson (mascot) and Shannon Creedon.



MRHS

Belles Visit California

The Morton Ranch Maverick Belles took California by storm! The Belles participated in the Disney Magic Music Days in Anaheim California over Spring Break. They enjoyed the sun and fun of Los Angeles, Beverly Hills, Rodeo Drive, and Santa Monica Pier and Promenade.

BOB CHRISTIAN & ASSOCIATES

WWW.FINERHOMESOFKATY.COM

Premier Real Estate. Premier Service.

Dreaming of a new home? We make it happen.

We don't just talk about excellent service. Our hard-working Realtors® provide it. Whether it's improving your home's market position, or finding your next dream home, our service is tailored to your unique situation.

Need relocation information? No problem. We can help, no matter where you're moving to. Call us and you'll be one step closer to home.



**COLDWELL
BANKER**

UNITED. REALTORS

Each office is
independently
owned and operated.

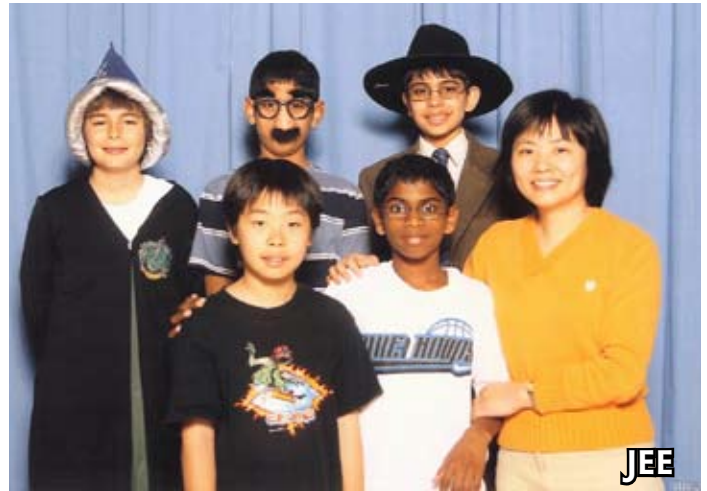
(281) 578-4407 ♦ Bob@FinerHomesofKaty.com



CRHS

Cougar Color Guard Places 3rd

The Cinco Ranch High School Winter Guard recently competed in the Texas Color Guard Circuit state contest at Berry Stadium. The guard placed 3rd in the Scholastic Open Class.



JEE

Imaginative Exley Kids

Exley Elementary Destination Imagination won 1st place in the Gulf coast region tournament. Congratulations to Joey Gu, Gunalan Karun, Salomon Cantu, Gautam Pappu, Siddharth Seethepalli.



THS

Taylor Winter Guard Competes at Worlds

The Taylor Winter Guard qualified as an elite finalist and finished 11th out of 117 teams from throughout the U.S. at the Winter Guard International World Championships in Dayton, Ohio. In 1999 and 2003, the Taylor Winter Guard also qualified for the World Championship finals, finishing 10th and 3rd, respectively.



SLHS

Seven Lakes Guard

Congratulations to the Seven Lakes High School Winter Guard. They received 1st place at the TCGC State Championships in Scholastic Regional A Division I contest.



BDJH

Beckendorff Gets Rave Reviews

Bravo to Beckendorff Junior High on their successful production of Rodgers & Hammerstein's Oklahoma! The cast and crew put on three exceptional shows enjoyed by all.



GE

Golbow Goes Fishin'

Golbow Elementary students recently participated in the Take Me Fishing Houston event sponsored by Texas Parks & Wildlife. Pictured is Camryn O'Conner, a kindergartner, who caught the smallest fish of the day.



PE

Pattison Buzzes with Talent

Army Ants and Honey Bees all showed up to the picnic at Pattison Elementary's 1st Grade Program BUGS. Pictured are Kathy Le, Scott Fisher, Jason Kaculi, Nour Baba, AJ Eick, Vegar Bolstad, Rafaela Carandang, Lauren Choe, and Jenny Smith.



CRHS

Cinco's 07/08 Bravo Show Choir

After a four part-audition process, Cinco Ranch High School named their Bravo Show Choir for the 2007/2008 school year. Congratulations to James Burris, Angela Bou Kheir, Nicholas Deyo, Erin Dahlstrom, David Gonzales, Victoria Haddix, Josh Kerlin, Alexandra Hunt, Amy Katsarelis, Rohit Moharir, Andrew Petty, Megan Lloyd-Jones, Kevin Wilkinson, Lisa Milne, Sarah Pedersen, Caitlin Robertson, and Taylor Sass.

Continued on page 130



*Family Owned & Operated
by the Bradford Family*

**Your Katy Golf
Headquarters All Year Long!**

- > Mens, Ladies, Junior & Lefty's
- > Free Custom Fitting on GolfUSA Purchases
- > Quick Turnaround on Repairs
- > Indoor Hitting Area
- > Trade-ins Welcome
- > Swing Analysis
- > Tournament Discounts

©2006 Katy Magazine

**GOLF
USA**



*Keep your Katy
dollars at home!*

281-392-4653
www.golfusa.com
1646 S. Mason Rd.

Hours
M-F 10-7, Sat. 9-6, Sun 12-5

*Mention this ad to
receive a free gift!*

Continued from page 115



Cheers to You!

Congratulations to the newly selected Cinco Ranch High School 2007-2008 Varsity Cheerleaders!



From Blue to Black

Congratulations to Taylor students to Lauren Jagers and Trey Aranza for recently earning their Blackbelts. The students are pictured with Frank Santarose, United Tae Kwon Do.

Don't See Your School Listed?

Tell your school's publicity person to send us items! We enjoy publishing school news bits. Email items and photos to: editor@katymagazine.com

Top Scholars

Katy Magazine salutes these Class of 2007 Valedictorians and Salutatorians.

CINCO RANCH HIGH SCHOOL

KATY HIGH SCHOOL



Hashim Q. Zaidi
Valedictorian

Hashim Zaidi ended his high school career with a grade point average of 4.7931. The son of Javed and Nighat Zaidi, Hashim will attend Rice University in the fall.

Alice S. Xu
Valedictorian

Alice Xu graduated with a grade point average of 4.7823. She plans to attend California Institute of Technology to pursue a major in physics and the dream of becoming a scientist.

Lindsey M. Jackson
Salutatorian

Lindsey Jackson is the daughter of Guy and Joan Jackson. She will attend Texas A&M University next year and graduated with a 4.7818 grade point average.

MAYDE CREEK HIGH SCHOOL



Shirley Y. Yang
Valedictorian

Shirley Yang earned a grade point average of 4.7037 at Mayde Creek High School. The daughter of Chuck and Nancy Yang, Shirley will attend the University of Texas at Austin.

Kristie Chin
Salutatorian

Kristie Chin graduated with a grade point average of 4.7500. She will be attending Brown University to major in Civil Engineering and concentrate in Architecture.

Houdah B. Abualtin
Salutatorian

Houdah Abualtin ended her high school career with a cumulative grade point average of 4.5803. Next year, she will join Mayde Creek's valedictorian at the University of Texas at Austin. Houdah is the daughter of Saadeh and Shasta Abualtin.



Golbow Students Recycling Project

Students at Golbow Elementary recently celebrated Earth Day by participating in an aluminum can recycling drive. Pictured are students from Ms. Lopez's second grade class, with Principal Felicia Sheedy (principal) and Katy Recycling owner Rosanne Lopez (center) and teacher Bethany Lopez (far right).



Taylor Choir Scholarship Recipients

Taylor High School senior choir members Cullan Lucas, Kelley Pyle, Lizzie Lang, and Jaime Rodriguez (l-r) were each awarded 2007 Choir Booster Scholarships. Lizzie Lang also received the Gail Land Leadership Award, and Jaime Rodriguez was also awarded the Ara Lynn Bauman Memorial Scholarship and the Outstanding Choral Member Award.

MORTON RANCH HIGH SCHOOL



Brandon L. Ortiz

Valedictorian

Brandon Ortiz is also the first-ever valedictorian of Morton Ranch High School. The Maverick will emerge from his high school career with a 4.7273 grade point average. Brandon will head off to Austin in the fall to attend the University of Texas. His parents are Gilbert and Doris Ortiz.

TAYLOR HIGH SCHOOL

Aditya Jogi Yerrapragada

Valedictorian

Aditya Yerrapragada earned a 4.8051 grade point average and is the son of Srini and Shaila Yerrapragada. He plans to attend the University of Texas at Austin.



Brittney R. Bussell

Salutarian

Brittney Bussell, daughter of Jeffery and Rhoni Bussell, graduated with a grade point average of 4.7115. She is heading off to College Station to attend Texas A&M University next fall.

Kaiyuan Wang

Salutarian

Taylor Salutarian Kaiyuan Wang completed his high school career with a 4.7937 cumulative grade point average. The son of Xiaogi Wang and Chenxia Xie, he will attend Yale University in the fall.



LIVING WORD
Lutheran Church

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES
8:15 am, 9:40 am, 11:00 am, 6:00 pm and
Spanish Service 6:00 pm

Sunday School for all ages 9:40 am
Child Care Available

3700 South Mason Road, Katy
281.592.2300
www.livingwordkaty.org



The Learning Center
Christian Preschool & Kindergarten
Before and After School Programs

