



Spotlight On Our STARS

STARS: Seniors who take a role - Our residents make a world of difference in the lives of SBISD children.

Mentees Need You

SpringBoard Program adult mentors began the new school year by visiting with their mentees, or assigned students, at more than 30 campuses across Spring Branch ISD. They reunited after a long summer apart.

Mentor and former teacher Cheryl Carruthers was as happy to see her mentee, Indiana, as the young Hollibrook Elementary School student was to see her. "You should have seen her face when she saw me waiting for her outside the classroom," Ms. Carruthers said. "Her whole face lit up!"

Indiana likes to play Jenga and Monopoly with her mentor, who she said brings happiness to her life through visits. Ms. Carruthers, who taught at Landrum Middle, believes that students who have mentors are more confident and make a better transition to middle school.



Hollibrook student and mentor enjoy a game of Jenga

"When I retired, I knew I wanted to be a mentor to help another student develop these important traits," she said.

Now celebrating 18 years in the school district, the SpringBoard Mentor program pairs caring adults from more than 20 partner organizations and from the community with students "on the brink of success."

Students in the mentoring program benefit from the gift of one-on-one campus visits and the nonjudgmental friendships they develop with adult mentors.

More than 450 mentors are serving district students this year, but still more caring adults are needed to donate time and nurture children as they grow and develop.

Seitel Marketing Director Marcia Nouis and Emely, now a seventh-grader, have been together since the student's third-grade year at Shadow Oaks Elementary.

"I can trust her with everything, and she gives good advice," Emely said. Nouis became a mentor when she heard other Seitel employees talking up the rewards of meeting with young girls and boys. "I enjoy my time with her."

Early this school year, Bailey, a Hollibrook fifth-grader, and his mentor, John Bohrer, who joins other mentors from Memorial Drive United Methodist Church, made lists of all the things they had done over the summer.

Bailey visited Six Flags and Splash Town. Bohrer made a road trip through Colorado. "I also went to the dentist," he said. "I guess that doesn't count as a fun summer activity."

To learn how you can be a SpringBoard Program mentor or find other volunteer opportunities, email mentor@springbranchisd.com or call 713-251-2302.



Sterling McCall Auto Group's David Taylor Cadillac dazzled Memorial High's Holly Hartman with a new car.

SBISD Teacher Driven to Success

A Memorial High journalism teacher made school district history after Group 1 Automotive's Sterling McCall Auto Group awarded her a complimentary, 1-year leased luxury vehicle from their Houston dealership, David Taylor Cadillac. It was the first award of its kind for a district educator.

Holly Hartman is the Spring Branch ISD and Region 4 Secondary Teacher of the Year. Her surprise award came during a back-to-school Convocation for district employees held at Don Coleman Coliseum.

The car award marks SBISD's new partnership with Sterling McCall's VIP Services program, which introduced a new 'Going the Extra Mile' incentive to recognize the district's annual Teachers of the Year.

The car group is also a new XtraCredit partner with the district, offering preferred vehicle pricing for all employees. In addition, the auto group donates \$100 to the local Spring Branch Education Foundation for

every car purchased by a district employee.

A longtime Memorial High instructor, Hartman oversees a highly rated student newspaper and yearbook, both winners of many local, state and national awards. She also teaches regular journalism.

She was named Region 4 Secondary Teacher of the Year, a great honor, after being selected district Teacher of the Year. She was seated at Convocation when a friend told her that she was about to win a new car and be called to the stage.

"When they called my name, I couldn't believe it," Hartman said. She made it to the stage in a daze, and was led outside to a new, balloon festooned Cadillac.

"We are thrilled and most appreciative to have David Taylor Cadillac and Group 1 Automotive on the Learner's Journey with us and Going the Extra Mile to recognize our great educators," said SBISD Community Relations Officer Linda Buchman.

Local Awards and Honors Abound

Studies show that great classroom teachers are the No. 1 reason why students do well academically. SBISD teachers are best in class in so many areas. Other recent educator honors include:

Ryan Beeler, Spring Woods High School environmental science teacher
Guiding Star Award issued annually by Parents for Public Schools of Houston

Anne Daily, Wilchester Elementary School health fitness teacher
Stars in the Classroom Award, Houston Texans/First Community Credit Union

Sara Russo, Stratford High School AP macroeconomics and government teacher
Harvey Hero, KPRC TV-2 featured hurricane response volunteer

Hurricane Harvey: Paying it Forward

Kade Polidori and Andrew Steeg held a joint ninth birthday party so special their party gifts benefited local students who are still feeling the effects of Hurricane Harvey.

The Hunters Creek Elementary third-graders delivered about \$500 in gift cards to Cece Thompson, executive director of Spring Branch Education Foundation (SBEF). Last year, SBEF raised \$1,045,932 to benefit SBISD staff and student families displaced by Hurricane Harvey.

"There aren't enough words to describe their generosity. Kade and Andrew are extraordinary young men," Thompson says. "We will share the cards with Communities In Schools (CIS) Houston, which partnered with us in the Harvey Relief Fund. CIS will

use the gifts to help with food, clothing or school supplies. The cards make a huge difference in a student's life."

Kade's mother, Amy Polidori says, "The gift cards are a way we can give back to a community that gave us so much during a very difficult time."



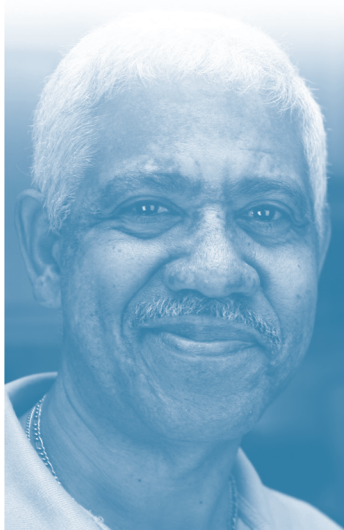
Hunters Creek students donated their birthday gift cards to others.



Inspiring minds. Shaping lives.

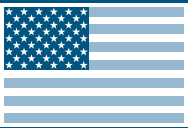
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You can make a difference.
Inspire a mind. Shape a life.

STARNews is produced by the Communications Department of Spring Branch ISD.
Our goal is to keep retired residents informed about the school district they helped build.



Knights Celebrate 50 Years

It’s always a great time to be a Nottingham Knight.

More than 500 people attended Nottingham Elementary’s 50th Anniversary on Oct. 26. A big, popular outdoor carnival was paired with a smaller library event with a colorful birthday cake and special project, a time capsule book including written submissions by all students and grade levels. A stunning aerial outdoor photograph of students and staff spelling out “50” is included in the anniversary book.

Nottingham has come a long way since school doors opened in the late 1960s, and this neighborhood has shown true grit in its journey, especially after Hurricane Harvey impacted so many area residents. Twenty campuses, including Nottingham, built between 1950 and 1969 opened across Spring Branch-Memorial neighborhoods, marking this area’s greatest period of development.

One sign that Nottingham is recovering well might be fundraising for various campus activities. A modest \$5,000 goal was smashed with more than \$22,000 taken in, organizers said. “It was certainly a great day to be a Nottingham Knight by seeing so much love from community, volunteers, parents and PTA come together and make this possible,” said Principal Roy Moore.

“Nottingham Elementary is the heart of our small community and so many families, Nottingham staff and student volunteers came together to make this special event a success,” PTA President Stephanie Rasch said.



Nottingham Elementary carnival was part of the school’s recent anniversary events.

Be A STAR and Join Us Online!

Spring Branch ISD needs volunteers for a variety of activities ranging from tutoring and mentoring to general office support. To make a difference in the lives of young people, call SBISD Community Relations at 713-251-2286.

This STARNews publication is now available online on our website, and via email as an electronic newsletter, or e-newsletter.

COMING ATTRACTIONS



November 2018

| | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| 14-15 | Annie Jr. | Cornerstone Academy Auditorium | 6:30 p.m. |
| 17 | Choir Cabaret Show | Northbrook HS Auditorium | 7 p.m. |
| 29 | Winter Orchestra Concert | Northbrook HS Auditorium | 6:30 p.m. |
| 30 | SWHS Cabaret | Spring Woods HS Auditorium | 7 p.m. |

December 2018

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|-------|--|-----------------------------|-----------|
| 4 | Winter Choir Concert | Stratford HS Theater | 7 p.m. |
| 5 | Band Winter Concert | Northbrook HS Auditorium | 6:30 p.m. |
| 6 | Choir Winter Concert | Spring Oaks MS Auditorium | 5:30 p.m. |
| 6 | Winter Orchestra Concert | Stratford HS | 7 p.m. |
| 6-7 | Evening Drama Performance | Northbrook HS Auditorium | 7 p.m. |
| 10 | Winter Jazz & Percussion Concert | Spring Woods HS Auditorium | 7 p.m. |
| 11 | Christmas Band Concert | Spring Oaks MS | 5:30 p.m. |
| 11 | Memorial MS Band Winter Concert | Memorial HS Auditorium | 6 p.m. |
| 11 | Winter Band Concert | Spring Branch MS Auditorium | 6:30 p.m. |
| 11 | Gloria Stratford Choir/Orchestra Concert | Memorial Drive UMC | 7 p.m. |
| 11 | HS Band Winter Concert | Memorial HS Auditorium | 7:30 p.m. |
| 13-14 | Disney’s The Little Mermaid Jr. | Spring Oaks MS Auditorium | 6 p.m. |
| 13 | Winter String Concert (MHS, MMS, SBMS) | Don Coleman Coliseum | 6:30 p.m. |
| 13 | Winter Band Concert | Spring Woods HS Auditorium | 7 p.m. |
| 14 | Joint Choirs Concert (MHS, MMS, SBMS) | Memorial HS Theater | 7 p.m. |

January 2019

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|-------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| 24 | IB Theatre Showcase | Westchester Academy | 3:15 p.m. |
| 25-26 | The Drowsy Chaperone | Spring Woods HS Auditorium | 7:30 p.m. |
| 26 | The Drowsy Chaperone | Spring Woods HS Auditorium | 2:30 p.m. |
| 28 | The Drowsy Chaperone | Spring Woods HS Auditorium | 7:30 p.m. |
| 31 | Winter Season Play | Northbrook HS Auditorium | 7 p.m. |
| 31 | My Fair Lady | Memorial HS Auditorium | 7 p.m. |
| 31 | Newsies Opening Night | Stratford HS Playhouse Auditorium | 7:30 p.m. |

February 2019

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|-----|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|
| 1-2 | My Fair Lady | Memorial HS Auditorium | 7 p.m. |
| 1-2 | Winter Season Play | Northbrook HS Auditorium | 7 p.m. |
| 1-2 | The Drowsy Chaperone | Spring Woods HS Auditorium | 7:30 p.m. |
| 1-2 | Newsies | Stratford HS Auditorium | 7:30 p.m. |
| 2 | The Drowsy Chaperone | Spring Woods HS Auditorium | 2:30 p.m. |
| 2 | Newsies | Stratford HS Auditorium | 2:30 p.m. |
| 7-9 | My Fair Lady | Memorial HS Auditorium | 7 p.m. |
| 7-9 | Newsies | Stratford HS Auditorium | 7:30 p.m. |
| 9 | Newsies | Stratford HS Auditorium | 2:30 p.m. |
| 8 | ComedySportz Faculty Match | Spring Woods Mini-Theater | 7 p.m. |
| 12 | Valentine Choir Concert | Northbrook HS Auditorium | 7 p.m. |
| 22 | Early Spring Orchestra Concert | Memorial HS Auditorium | 7 p.m. |
| 27 | ComedySportz Alumni Match | Spring Woods HS Mini-Theater | 7 p.m. |
| 28 | Contest Choir Music Concert | Spring Oaks MS Auditorium | 5:30 p.m. |

March 2019

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|-------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 | Spring Branch Girls Choir Concert | Fairhaven United Methodist Church | 6 p.m. |
| 7 | Band Spring Concert | Stratford HS Auditorium | 7 p.m. |
| 20 | Pre-UIL Band Concert | Northbrook HS Auditorium | 6:30 p.m. |
| 20 | Symphony Orchestra Concert | Memorial HS Auditorium | 7 p.m. |
| 21-23 | A Few Good Men | Westchester Academy | 7 p.m. |
| 26 | Pre-UIL Choir Concert | Stratford HS Theater | 7 p.m. |
| 27 | Spring Pre-UIL Concert | Northbrook HS Auditorium | 6:30 p.m. |

April 2019

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|-------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| 4-5 | Spartanaires Spring Show | Stratford HS Theater | 7 p.m. |
| 5 | ComedySportz All SBISD Match | Spring Woods HS Mini-Theater | 7 p.m. |
| 6 | Spartanaires Spring Show | Stratford HS Theater | 5 p.m. |
| 11 | Pre-UIL Band Concert | Spring Oaks MS Auditorium | 4 p.m. |
| 11-12 | Spring Theater Play | Northbrook HS Auditorium | 7 p.m. |
| 25-27 | Pippin | Stratford HS Playhouse Auditorium | 7:30 p.m. |
| 26-27 | Markette Spring Show | Memorial HS Auditorium | 7 p.m. |

Note: Dates and Times subject to change. Please check with your campus. Special reservation and pricing policies may apply for theater and other campus events. Seniors 65 years old or older seeking STARCard event discounts should always check special reservation and pricing policies ahead of time.

Spring Branch Independent School District

STARCard

Seniors Take A Role

STARCards are distributed free of charge to citizens 65 or older who reside in SBISD.

It’s our way of saying “Thanks!” for all you’ve done, and continue to do to support our district.

Benefits include:

- 20 percent discounts on SBISD continuing education classes
- Free admission to SBISD regular season “home game” athletic events (playoffs not included)
- Free admission to student performances (some seats are limited and advance ticket pick-up may be required)
- 10 percent off on Wednesdays at Blue Willow Books, 14532 Memorial Drive

To get your STARCard and earn these discounts, please contact:

SBISD Communications Department
(713) 251-2272