

## Cy-Fair to host 1st Health Expo

With 18 CFISD employees and community partners currently on a committee, plans are underway for the first annual Cy-Fair Community Health Expo, which will be held on Saturday, May 16, 2009 at the Berry Center, 8877 Barker Cypress Road.

CFISD is collaborating with the YMCA, HEB, Tenet Healthcare, Cy-Fair Chamber of Commerce, North Cypress Medical Center and others to host this free event for the community that will focus on emphasizing the significance of living a healthy lifestyle for people of all ages.

The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will include various scheduled performances and demos from the community's schools and businesses with door prizes being awarded throughout the day.

Although the schedule of performances for the event is subject to change from now until the day of the event, presentations from within the district will include elementary school choirs, sport stackers and other performance teams. From outside of the district, demos will include a milking cow, Tae Kwon Do, Jazzercise, yoga, cooking classes, bike safety rodeos, athletic wear fashion show and a fire department demo.

Additionally, more than 65 vendors will set up booths at the Berry Center to help educate the community on mental, physical, spiritual, financial and environmental health.

The Health Services Department, under the leadership of Jan Jones, will offer CPR and First Aid classes at the Expo. School nurses will be available throughout the day to assist attendees by answering questions and providing helpful information.

A blood mobile will be on site to sponsor a blood drive and health screenings will be provided by the doctors and medical personnel from Tenet and other healthcare providers.

In addition to the health services that will be offered, a recycling drop-off site will be available through CFISD's recycler, Abitibi, Houston Computer Recycling, and the non-profit group Sustainable Living Houston. These groups will provide a drop-off area for electronics, household batteries, paper, plastic and aluminum.

More information will be available via the district website at [www.cfisd.net](http://www.cfisd.net), district publications, CFTV Comcast Ch. 16 and other community newspapers. If you have any questions, please contact the CFISD Special Events office at 281-517-2043.

## CFISD students take initiative

*Cy Creek students help bus driver during asthma attack*

It was prior to the start of school when bus driver Melissa Garcia of Bus No. 1174 began to feel an asthma attack coming on strongly. In the middle of rush-hour traffic, on Mills Road heading to Cypress Creek High School, she realized she needed to pull over on the side of the road to make sure the approximate 40 students on her bus remained safe.

With an overwhelming light-headed feeling, Garcia called the Telge Transportation dispatcher, Kelley Hobbs. This is when Cypress Creek High School senior Keele Maynard, seated midway on the bus, noticed something peculiar on Garcia's face through the driver's mirror.

As she saw Garcia gasping for air, Maynard knew something was terribly wrong so she moved quickly to the front of the bus, took the radio from Garcia and spoke to the Telge dispatcher. Speaking in a calm and clear voice, Maynard provided the neighborhood and street names to the dispatcher and remained by Garcia's side until Emergency Services (EMS) arrived.

Junior Willie West was the student who called 911 using his own cell phone, and remained on the line to help guide the EMS to the bus. Meanwhile, other students pitched in to help out. Senior Lawrence Fitzgerald came from the back of the bus and fanned the driver to keep her cool.

"One image that stands out in my mind [after reviewing video footage from the bus] is of this young man fanning her with his notebook while his hand rested on her shoulder in a calming manner," said Jack Mann, Telge Transportation supervisor.

Another student, senior Myra Wright, at one point suggested that all students lower the windows to give the driver more air; and every student complied with the request quickly. Throughout the entire incident, Mann said he observed through the video footage that all the students remained calm and in their seats.

"We saw a number of students making great choices in a difficult situation," he said. "Their



Cypress Creek senior Keele Maynard, right, was one of the students who recently helped out bus driver Melissa Garcia, left, who suffered from an asthma attack on the bus.

reaction to this emergency speaks very well of their school and its staff."

Cypress Creek principal Jim Wells said he is proud of how his students conducted themselves on the bus that morning before school.

"It is obvious that we had a lot of students doing the right thing on this particular day. It makes me proud to have a group of kids like this responding in such a compassionate manner."

Once the EMS arrived, students were asked to evacuate the bus and without hesitation, they followed directions, some exiting through the front and others through the back door. According to Telge supervisor Kim Ater, when she arrived at the scene, students were standing approximately 100 feet away

from the bus and standing safely away from traffic just as they had learned from the Emergency Evacuation Drills conducted last year. As Garcia was being examined by the EMS, she kept expressing her concern for the safety of her students so much so that the EMS had to tell her to "stop worrying—your students did just fine on their own."

Garcia said she is proud of her students from Bus No. 1174 and will never forget how they pulled together to help her during such a critical time in her life.

"If they hadn't done anything to help me out that day, there's no telling what could have happened. I am thankful that they took the initiative to help me through a crisis that could have landed me in the hospital."

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Jim Wells, Cypress Creek High School Principal