

# Rotary Shrimporee on tap Saturday

One of the year's biggest events, Space Center Rotary Club's Shrimporee, is coming up Saturday, Oct 17, and the entire Bay Area community is invited to take a break and participate in the festivities.

The 36th annual festival and auction begins at 11 a.m. and continues until 4 p.m. in Clear Lake Park's Landolt Pavillion, 5001 NASA Parkway, Seabrook. "Live and silent auctions will feature wonderful items to fit every budget," Chairman John Wilson points out.

Admission is free.

Boiled shrimp and barbecue brisket plates are \$15. Raffle

tickets (only 500 sold) are available for \$20 for the first prize, a \$6,725 Cartier Santos Galbee Watch and the second prize, a \$1,100 white gold and diamonds Mikimoto Pearl Pendant.

The winner does not have to be present, so if those who can't make the event, can call and purchase raffle tickets from Sheryl Berg, 281-488-7221, or at the Shrimporee.

Following this year's theme, the festival will include educational, interactive healthy activities for kids, "as well as adults," Wilson said. "Kids can participate in the festival activities, while enjoying hot dogs, pop-

corn and cotton candy."

And, while the kids enjoy the festival activities, parents can learn about CPR training, identifying visual problems in their children and many other activities, President Jon McKinnie adds. "Live music and fellowship makes for an enjoyable afternoon."

"All funds generated will go to support Space Center's 29 community service projects," McKinnie said. "Major beneficiaries include Hurricane Ike Continued Relief, Shriner's Childrens Hospital and Armond Bayou Nature Center. Remember the 'Future of Children is in Our Hands.'"

## BALLUNAR

Continued from Page 1A

Area and Harris County will allow children to get a close-up look at the community's newest fire truck, rescue equipment, police cars and ambulances, festival organizer Sunny Fitz said.

Antique fire trucks will also be on hand, and alert parents can take advantage of child fingerprinting, as well as blood pressure testing for the adults.

Residents can vote for their favorite cities in the fire truck Show N' Shine Contest, to keep the traveling trophy until next year.

Representatives from local public safety programs for fire, disaster recovery, evacuation and police awareness will also be in attendance.

## NASA TOUR

Saturday's event will also include a mini-tour of NASA, including International Space Station mockups and astronaut training facilities, with astronauts on hand to sign autographs.

## AIR SPORTS

This year's festival will also feature the Texas State Winged-Suit skydiving record attempt, featuring a record "flock" of more than 25 skydivers.

The group will exit an aircraft at more than 2 1/2 miles in the air, and will attempt to build a 25-man formation as they deploy their wing suits.

And if that's not enough, the Re/Max Skydiving Team will take to the air Friday night for the national anthem and will perform dives about every 30 minutes throughout the weekend.

"Our program is very children-oriented and gives kids a chance to learn about non-mainstream aviation," said Al Saylor, who captains the team.

"I think what will be the most exciting for kids are the chances to meet the skydivers, learn how to pack parachutes and getting to see ultra-light aircraft in flight."

## U.S. NAVY WEEK

The U.S. Navy will kick off Navy Week on Saturday, be-

ginning with MU2 Steven Jones' performance of the national anthem and continuing with performance by the United States Navy Band New Orleans before and after the evening balloon glow.

Since its establishment in 1971, the band has performed annual to more than 26 million people in support of the Navy, Navy recruiting and community relations events.

## FUNDING EDUCATION

The Ballunar Liftoff Festival, Inc., a nonprofit organization, gives grants to more than 16,000 Title 1 schoolchildren, in grades pre-K through 12, for field trips to the Johnson Space Center and Space Center Houston.

Funds from the festival has also helped create classrooms in which children through eighth grade can learn about science and technology used in the space program.

## FOR FULL SCHEDULE

For a complete schedule of events and other information, visit [www.ballunarfestival.com](http://www.ballunarfestival.com).