

## Humble/Kingwood News

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BUSINESS

### Water features relax busy homeowners

Biondolillo joins chamber staff to plan events

By **HARRY WILLIAMSON**  
Chronicle Correspondent

In today's stress-filled world, more Kingwood and Humble area homeowners are finding peace and relaxation by installing backyard water features.

"It's a universal notion that the sound of flowing water is soothing and relaxing," said David Renninger, who along with his brother Mark own Century Gardens Landscape Creators in Kingwood.

Although water features account for a small percentage of their total business, David said he and his brother are seeing an upswing in interest.

"Complete with plants, rocks, fish and filtration, water features are easy to maintain and can be configured in a variety of formats," he said. "They are also a great way to attract more birds and wildlife to a yard."

Renninger said some of this increase in customer interest is also because backyards are becoming more of an extension of the home's living environment, incorporating large patios, fireplaces, outdoor kitchens, and water features.

"Especially since 9/11, there seems to have been a refocus on families spending time together at home," he said.

"A lot of this is happening in the backyard."

He said that water features fall into three general categories: a natural-looking pond that incorporates a waterfall and/or a stream; pondless waterfalls; and fountains.

All three incorporate pumps to recirculate the water through the feature.

Renninger said the water falling into a pond creates its own working ecosystem.

"With the fish and all of the aquatic plants, along with the moving water, the ponds appeal to people who want more of a hobby," he said.

Research by the Horticultural Research Institute shows a well-designated landscape with water feature will typically increase the property's value by 10-15 percent.

For more information, call Century Gardens at 281-354-0970.

Or visit [www.centurygardens.com](http://www.centurygardens.com).

### Humble chamber has new events director

The Humble Area Chamber of Commerce recently hired Stephanie Biondolillo as the organization's special events director.

In her new role, Biondolillo is responsible for the coordination and management of all the chamber's special events, including the annual awards banquet, the golf tournament and Party on the Green, Ladies' Night Out, the Airport Appreciation Festival and fireworks display.

She has worked in the hospitality industry for 10 years.

Mike Byers, chamber president, said he looks forward to the perspective Biondolillo will provide when planning their events.

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