

THE Ranch Review

July 2016
Volume 10, Issue 7

A Newsletter for Riata Ranch Residents

GIRL SCOUTS OF SAN JACINTO COUNCIL Copper Creek Meadows Community

The community Bridging Ceremony held in May was our last “official” event of the school year. Our bridging troops showed off their artistic talents with the beautiful butterflies and flowers that decorated the stage! It is always a pleasure to hear about the activities and projects these troops have worked on, and to see the smiling faces as the girls cross the bridge and don their new vests and sashes. We would particularly like to thank troop 113035. This bridging troop performed our flag ceremony, and also helped to clean up afterwards. You could see these Girl Scouts really work together as they carried the dis-assembled bridge out to the parking lot!

Many thanks to Julie Mayer, who coordinated the event, and to all those who participated.

Troop 16162 reports that they were able to pack about 75 bags with cereal, protein, vegetables, fruit, juice boxes, peanut butter, jelly and snacks. All these bags were collected for Cy-Hope’s back pack program. This program provides food for children during the summer and weekends when school breakfast and lunch programs do not operate.

Troop 16399 has been working hard for the SPCA. They made over two dozen adoption bags for dogs and cats, and conducted a drive to collect needed items for the SPCA.

Cadette Girl Scout troop 16435 hosted Junior Girl Scout troops #16503 and 16911 for a “Take Action” project. The Cadettes performed a skit and prepared a power point presentation on anti-bullying. They helped the younger Girl Scouts with a mirror craft. The mirrors were decorated on one side with positive messages that their sister Scouts wrote about them.

Girls from all levels in our region enjoyed a movie event together, as they watched “Finding Dory”.

Program Aide training open to our older Girl Scouts. Please check the Council website for more information.

Region 3 is hosting a Zombie Apocalypse Camp Edition event in September. Girl Scouts in grades 6-12 are invited to attend. The camp skills you learn just might make the difference!

Summer brings day, twilight and resident camps. Girl Scouts will be enjoying a variety of activities and programs at our camps, learning new skills, and having fun. Where else would you learn all those songs and games, wear funny hats and crazy socks, and go through “people washers”?

Girl Scouting is open to all girls ages 5 (must be in kindergarten) through 18 who are willing to accept the Girl Scout Promise and Law. Girls may join at any level, and no previous Scouting experience is required. We have many special interest groups and opportunities open to older girls.

Copper Creek Meadows Community serves girls in the residence areas for the elementary schools listed below, and the corresponding middle and high schools. Home schooled and private school students are always welcome.

Our elementary schools are: Birkes, Fiest, Hairgrove, Horne, Kirk, Lee, Lieder, Lowery, Metcalf, Owens, Tipps, Wilson, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Texas Christian School and Christian Life Center. Please contact coppercreekmeadowsgirlscouts@gmail.com for more information. You may also contact Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council at 713-292-0300 (www.gssjc.org).

Girl Scouts builds girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place.

Information below for contact only, not for publication.

Debra Rieke – pdkrieke@sbcglobal.net

8315 Lake Crystal Drive, Houston, TX 77095

Home: 281-856-0118

Office: 713-350-8209

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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Sheriff.....	713-221-6000
Fire Department.....	281-855-1110
Cy-Fair Medical Center.....	281-890-4285
Memorial City Hospital.....	713-932-3000
Poison Control.....	800-222-1222

SCHOOLS

Cypress Fairbanks ISD.....	281-897-4000
Postma Elementary.....	281-345-3660
Rennell Elementary.....	281-213-1550
Spillane Middle.....	281-216-1645
Cy-Fair High.....	281-897-4600
Cy-Falls High.....	281-856-1000
Cy-Woods High.....	281-213-1800
Cy-Fair College.....	281-290-3200

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Cy-Fair College Library.....	281-290-3210
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NEWSLETTER

Articles.....	riataranch@peelinc.com
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ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

Do you have an idea or suggestion for the newsletter? Want to submit a photo, article, or both? It's easy!! Email your articles to riataranch@peelinc.com by the 10th of the preceding month. So if you get your ideas in before the deadline, you should see them in the very next month's newsletter.

We are glad to hear all of the positive feedback and we intend to continue to improving the look and feel of the newsletter according to what you tell us. So get as involved as you like! We look forward to hearing from you.

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FACT OR HOGWASH?

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center

I think we've all heard that one should never touch a baby bird or the mother will not accept it again or may even kill it. This is simply not true. There are many misconceptions about wildlife. Let me help you separate fact from hogwash on a few of the most common ones.

MYTH: MOTHER BIRDS WILL ABANDON THEIR BABIES IF TOUCHED BY HUMANS

FACT: Mother birds will not abandon their offspring if touched by a human. For this to be true we would have to believe that birds can pick up on human scent. In fact, most birds have a rather poor sense of smell. For more information on what to do if you find a baby bird, see our website.

MYTH: IF YOU FIND A FAWN ALONE, IT HAS BEEN ABANDONED.

FACT: It is common to see fawns alone. Since they are incapable of keeping up with mom, she will leave the fawn, sometimes for hours, while she goes off to eat. The doe will visit the fawn two to three times a day. This will continue until the fawn is about 4 weeks old. It's best to leave fawns alone unless you know that the mother is dead and/or fawns are crying incessantly.

MYTH: IF YOU SEE A RACCOON OUT DURING THE DAY, IT'S RABID

FACT: Raccoons are typically nocturnal but are opportunistic creatures and can appear whenever food is around, day or night. In spring and summer when the mother's energy levels are depleted by nursing cubs it is not uncommon to see them out during the day. However, if the animal is acting disoriented or sick, such as circling, staggering or screeching — in addition to being seen during daylight hours — contact TWRC Wildlife Center or animal control.

MYTH: RACCOONS WASH THEIR FOOD

FACT: Raccoons have very sensitive feet and it is believed that dipping their food in water heightens that sensitivity so they can better feel the food before they eat it. They will also use water to soften food.

MYTH: IF YOU GET CLOSE TO A SKUNK, IT WILL SPRAY YOU.

FACT: Skunks only spray to defend themselves, such as when a dog runs up and grabs them. Before they spray, they will stamp their front feet as a warning to get you to back off. Skunks are also nearsighted so if you come across one, simply talk softly and back away.

MYTH: LIVE TRAPPING AND RELOCATING ANIMALS IS HUMANE

FACT: Most animals are very territorial. Residents of an area will more than likely attack and kill a newly relocated animal.

MYTH: OPOSSUMS LIKE TO HANG BY THEIR TAILS

FACT: The opossum's tail is capable of grabbing onto a limb to help with balance but it is not strong enough to support the animal's weight.

MYTH: TOADS CAUSE WARTS

FACT: Warts on people are caused by a herpes virus, not toads! Toads do, however, have wartlike bumps behind the ears that contain a poison that can irritate your skin.

MYTH: OPOSSUMS ARE DIRTY ANIMALS AND ARE VICIOUS

FACT: Opossums are fairly clean when compared to other animals. They groom themselves frequently. While in the care of a rehabilitator, they can even be trained to use a litter box. Like any other wild animal, they are more afraid of you than you are of them. They hiss and show teeth to scare you away, so, GO AWAY!

MYTH: IF AN ANIMAL IS FOAMING AT THE MOUTH, IT HAS RABIES

FACT: There are other reasons why an animal may be foaming at the mouth. Some of them are distemper, ticks, worms, diabetes, liver failure, poisoning, and many others.

TWRC Wildlife Center is currently looking for volunteers to help at our center in Houston. If you have a passion for animals and are looking for a worthy organization to help, check our website at www.twrcwildlifecenter.org or call 713-468-8972.



Cy-Fair Republican Women July Meeting

Cy-Fair Republican Women's General Meeting on July 12th will be a tribute to our Military & Veterans and CFRW's 11th Anniversary. Bring a photo of your family members in uniform.

Our guest speaker is Teri Poulton, Board of Directors, Lone Star Veterans Association (LSVA), the largest organization of post-9/11 veterans in Texas.

LSVA goal is to collaborate with other service providers to help returning service members.

10:30 AM - Noon. (Second Tuesday each month)

Meeting is \$3 -- Meeting w/Lunch at Noon is \$20.

Hearthstone Country Club, 7615 Ameswood, Houston, TX 77095

Enjoy likeminded fellowship and getting to know our candidates. All are welcome! Candidates, we want to get to know each of you. Please RSVP to www.cfrw.net by 7/5/16.

Cypress- Tomball Democrats July Meeting

The Cypress-Tomball Democrats monthly meeting for the month of July will be held on Tuesday, July 19th 2016, at Rudy's Grill & Cantina, 11760 Grant Rd., Cypress, TX 77429, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Dr. Mark Thorsby, Professor of Philosophy, at Lone Star College (Cy Fair) will be our Guest Speaker. He would be speaking on "History of Liberalism, in the context of Political Philosophy".

Everybody is welcome to attend the meeting and to join this growing club, which meets on the third Tuesday of every month. The meetings foster great fellowship and feature informative guest speakers. For further information, visit the website www.cytomdems.com; contact Cris Hernandez at cytomdems@yahoo.com; Follow us on Facebook at Cypress-Tomball Democrats.

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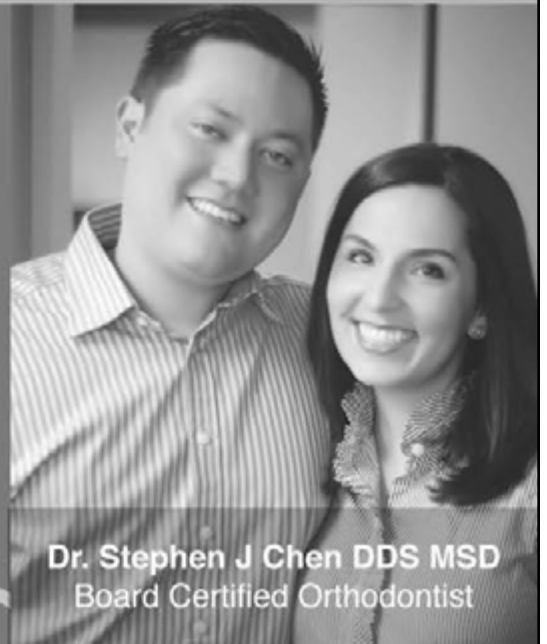


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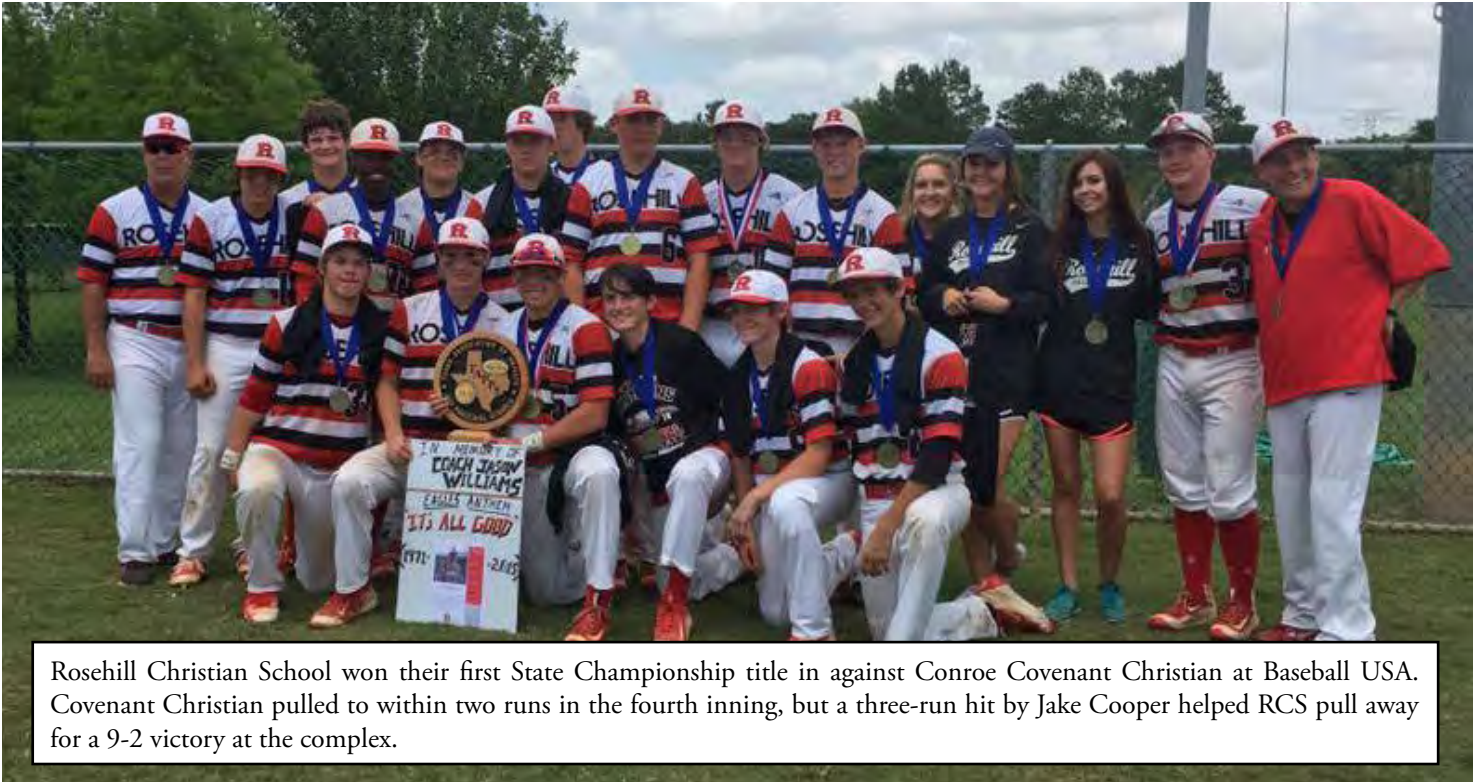


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Ranch Review



Rosehill Christian School won their first State Championship title in against Conroe Covenant Christian at Baseball USA. Covenant Christian pulled to within two runs in the fourth inning, but a three-run hit by Jake Cooper helped RCS pull away for a 9-2 victory at the complex.

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