



# *The* HOME FRONT

AUGUST 2016

Official Publication of Legends Ranch Property Owners Association

VOL 10, ISSUE 8

## **Social Committee News:** **National Night Out:** **Tuesday, August 2, evening**

Please join us as we celebrate National Night Out on Tuesday, August 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at the Splash Pad area. Enjoy a movie & meet your neighbors! We'll have popcorn, games, concessions & more!! You won't want to miss it!! Stay tuned for time & more details.



# LEGENDS RANCH

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### Property Tax

Montgomery County Tax .....	936-539-7897
Conroe ISD .....	936-709-7751
Montgomery MUD #89 .....	713-932-9011

### Your Community Homeowners Association

RealManage .....	866-473-2573
Legends Ranch Clubhouse.....	281-681-9750
Gate Attendant Office.....	281-296-0433

### Police & Fire

Emergency .....	911
Montgomery Sheriff .....	936-760-5800
Pct. 3 Constable Office .....	281-364-4211
S. Montgomery Co. Fire Dept. Non-Emergency.....	281-363-3473
Montgomery County EMS Non-Emergency .....	936-441-6243
Crime Stoppers .....	713-222-TIPS
Poison Control.....	800-222-1222
Texas DPS .....	713-681-1761

### Utilities

Electricity (TXU).....	800-368-1398
Electricity (TXU New Service) .....	281-441-3928
Electricity (Centerpoint) .....	713-207-2222
Gas (Centerpoint).....	713-659-2111
Water/Municipal Oper. & Consulting .....	281-367-5511
Best Trash .....	281-313-2378
Street Light Outages.....	713-207-2222
Cable/Internet/Phone...COMCAST .....	713-341-1000

### Public Services

Local US Post Office.....	281-419-7948
Toll Road EZ Tag.....	281-875-3279
Voters Registration.....	936-539-7843
Vehicle Registration .....	281-292-3325
Drivers License Information .....	936-442-2810
Montgomery County Animal Control .....	936-442-7738
Montgomery Chamber .....	281-367-5777

### Area Hospitals

Memorial Hermann .....	281-364-2300
St. Luke's .....	832-266-2000
Conroe Medical Center .....	281-364-7900

<b>Conroe ISD</b> .....	936-709-7751
Birnam Woods Elementary .....	281-863-4200
Cox Intermediate .....	281-465-3200
York Junior High .....	832-592-8600
Oak Ridge High .....	832-592-5300

### Private/Parochial

First Baptist Church .....	936-756-6622
Sacred Heart Catholic Church .....	936-756-3848
St. Edward Catholic.....	281-353-4570
St. James Episcopal Day .....	936-756-4984

## BOARD & MANAGEMENT CO

### Onsite Manager

Cathy Winfield.....	legranch@ciramail.com
Cicely Towers-Harris .....	legranch@ciramail.com

### Management Co.: Real Manage

Customer Service .....	(866)473-2573
.....	service@realmanage.com

### Board Members:

Sebastien Moulin.....	ilovelegendsranch@yahoo.com
Eric Garrington .....	ericlrhoa@gmail.com
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\*APR = Annual Percentage Rate and is inclusive of all discounts and is dependent on credit worthiness. Rates, terms and offers stated are subject to change without notice. Your rate may vary based on the loan amount, term and your personal circumstances. Certain loan terms and rates depend on loan amount. Membership is required before loan can be funded. Effective 9/1/2015 rates will be discounted on these loans for each stipulation that is elected: 1) .05% if Loss of Life Protection is elected, or 2) .10% if a combination of Loss of Life/Disability/Involuntary Unemployment/Family Leave Protection are elected. The maximum discount for a signature loan is .10%. Discounts are only given at time of loan closing.



## Legends Ranch Pool Schedule & Hours August & September 2016

### Clubhouse Pool:

Open Aug 2–Aug 21, Tues–Sun, 12–8pm  
Open for Holiday: Labor Day: Mon, Sept 5, 12–8pm \*final weekday for pool season  
Open Weekends Only once Conroe ISD in session: Aug 27–Sept 25, Sat /Sun 12–8pm  
Closed: Aug 1, 8, 15 & Closed 1st Week of School: Aug 22–26, Closed Aug 29, 30, 31

### Splashpad Pool:

Open Aug 1–Aug 21, Wed–Mon, 10am–8pm  
Open for Holiday: Labor Day: Mon, Sept 5, 10am–8pm \*final weekday for pool season  
Open Weekends Only once Conroe ISD in session: Aug 27–Sept 25, Sat/Sun 10am–8pm  
Closed: Aug 2, 9, 16 & Closed 1st Week of School: Aug 22–26, Closed Aug 29, 30, 31

*Note: 2016 Pool Management Company contractor: [www.houston-pmg.com](http://www.houston-pmg.com)  
Visit Clubhouse to sign-up for Adult Swim 18 & up. Inquiries: [LegRanch@CiraMail.com](mailto:LegRanch@CiraMail.com)*

## From Last Month/Last Week: POA OF LEGENDS RANCH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Date: Tuesday, July 26, 2016 Time: 6:00 pm (Open Session),  
Location: Legends Ranch Clubhouse, 2801 Legends Ranch Dr.,  
Spring, TX 77386. AGENDA OPEN SESSION (6:00 PM – 7:30 PM).*

### AGENDA

1. Establish of Quorum and Call to Order
2. Synopsis of Executive Meeting
3. Adoption of Agenda for Open Session
4. Consideration of Minutes of the Previous Open Meeting – June 28, 2016
5. Financial Report
  - 5a. May 2016 – C. Winfield
  - 5b. 2015 Audit – C. Winfield
- I. Representation Letter from CPA
- II. Draft of 2015 Audit
6. Contracts
  - 6a. Management
7. Proposals (Managing Agents)
  - 7a. Park benches around lakes – C. Winfield
  - 7b. Wooded Area at Splash Pad – C. Harris
- I. Add Drainage
- II. Tree Trimming (Discussion on Bids Received)
- 7c. Decorative Oil Derricks at Both Entrances – C. Harris
- 7d. Drill Site – C. Harris
- I. Clearing of Lot
- 7e. Additional Cameras in Splash Pad Building – C. Winfield
8. Ratification of Actions via Email Consent – None
9. Additional Business
  - 9a. Annual Meeting
  - 9b. Social Media Policy
  - 9c. 2017 Budget – C. Harris
10. Committee Updates
  - 10a. New Committees
- I. Fitness Center
- II. Splash Pad
  - 10b. Social
- I. National Night Out – Tuesday, August 2nd
11. Scheduling of Next Board Meeting
12. Adjournment
13. Homeowner Forum (due to time restraints, limited to (3) minutes per person)



## Gardening Tips for August

Are we all well done yet? At least we have air conditioning to retreat into! Your lawn however will be showing the stress of constant heat. Most plants will slow down or stop growth and blooming when subjected to extremes of heat. Be sure to keep to a watering schedule so that your plants and lawn have access to moisture during these hot days.

Just as you sweat, plants transpire water through specialized cells called Stomata. These are located on the underside of the leaf and open and close according to the plants need to lower its temperature. Keep a close watch on your lawn for the signs of grub or chinch bug damage. There are multiple products on the market that will take care of both of these pest with a single application. I know that some of your flowers are not looking their best this month. Just remember the months of pleasure you received from them. Many of the plants will recover as temperatures lower and give you loads of blossoms.

Now for the plant of the month: Lycoris, sometimes called "Surprise Lily", "Naked Ladies", or "Spider Lily", these tough little bulbs bloom in late August or early September. The bloom spike appears before the foliage (thus the naked lady name). There are three common varieties of Lycoris: Lycoris radiate--with bright red,

spidery petals; Lycoris squamigera--with light pink amaryllis type petals; Lycoris aurea--with yellow petals that are somewhat between the other two in shape.

Until Next Month,

Troy at your local Lone Star Ace

If you have any questions, please stop by and see me at Lone Star Ace Hardware or contact me at [troy@lonestarace.com](mailto:troy@lonestarace.com).



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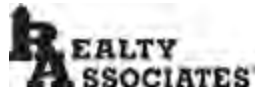


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# LEGENDS RANCH

## Troop Info Session for Parents of Youth K-12: Mon., Aug. 15, 7pm



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### *Troop's First Meeting: Mon., Sept. 12, 7pm*

Have you heard about American Heritage Girls (AHG) & Trail Life USA for boys (TL)? Both are national character development organizations embracing Christian values & encouraging family involvement. Emphasis is on leadership, team work, community service & outdoor adventure.

Come join us at our informational meeting for both, where registration is an option at this time, as well as dues payment with cash or check. Interested in learning more? Troop 0116 is in Spring, TX and is chartered by Manhood Achievement Network.

Location for Info Session & Meeting 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7pm, each month Sep 2016-May 2017: Founder's Baptist Church, 24724 Aldine Westfield Rd, Spring, TX 77373. (Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1777, Spring, TX 77373).

Thank you for your interest!

Melanie Russell, AHG Troop 0116 - Vice Troop Coordinator

Yolanda O'Neal, Troop Coordinator, YonealAHG@gmail.com, 832-377-8694, [www.AmericanHeritageGirls.org](http://www.AmericanHeritageGirls.org)

David Russell, TL Troop 0116 - Troop Master, TroopMaster@TLTX116.org, 281-785-8382, [www.TrailLifeUSA.com](http://www.TrailLifeUSA.com)



Think of all the time, effort or money you spend on your garden and lawn to look great. Now, consider that your driveway takes up half your front yard.

Moss, grime, Dirt, Mud and Fungus covering your driveways, sidewalks and Patios looks dirty and dramatically takes away from the overall clean and desirable curb appeal.

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# LEGENDS RANCH

## Ever think about hosting an international high school student?

Three families in Legends Ranch are hosting for this school year in fact! They're excited about this opportunity, as they recognize that hosting a student is an exciting and rewarding experience. If you know families in Cy-Fair ISD or New Caney ISD, please share for this August 2016. Also, it's not too early to get vetted for 2017.

Select from various countries, depending on availability of students participating: Western Europe (Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Spain, Sweden); Eastern Europe (Czech Republic, Slovakia); Asia (China, Hong Kong, Japan, Mongolia, South Korea, Thailand); Latin (Brazil, Mexico, Peru). They are female and male students aged 15-18 years old, who have been learning the English language, and who are interested to immerse in our culture to practice their English.

Why host? When you choose to be a Volunteer Host Family and welcome a foreign exchange student into your home, you will have the chance to establish a wonderful life-long friendship, while making a difference in a student's life.

Opening your doors and your heart allows host families to learn first-hand about a foreign country from the perspective of

an exchange student who has grown up there. They share in the evolving process of bringing the world closer through cross-cultural sharing and friendship. Most of all, they gain a new family member for a lifetime.

Cost involved? Students have their own spending money, cover their own personal expenses, and have full health insurance. Volunteer host families are asked to provide the student with meals and room and board during his or her stay in America.

You will not receive compensation as a volunteer host family; however, the Department of State does appreciate your dedication to international exchange. Host families can claim \$50 per month tax deduction for each month they host, or can claim a flat tax deduction, for the applicable tax year.

To learn more about becoming a Host Family Volunteer for a semester or a full academic year in 2015-2016 or in the future, please email your Local Coordinator to ask questions/ discuss further: [StudentExchangeCoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:StudentExchangeCoordinator@gmail.com). More info also available at: [www.ICESUSA.org](http://www.ICESUSA.org)

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# TENNIS TIPS

*By USPTA/PTR Master Professional - Owner, Manager and Director of Tennis  
Grey Rock Tennis Club, Austin, TX*



## How to execute The Forehand Service Return

In previous newsletters, I offered tips on how to hit a forehand groundstroke, a two-handed backhand, one-handed backhand, forehand volley, the two handed backhand volley, the serve, the forehand half-volley, the one-handed backhand volley and the overhead “smash”.

In this issue, I will offer you instructions on how to execute the second most important shot in the game of tennis: The Service Return, since it is the response to the first most important shot of the game: The Serve. In the illustrations, Jill Schmidt, player at the Grey Rock Tennis Club, shows the proper technique to execute this stroke.

**Step 1: The Ready Position:** When Jill is getting ready to return the serve, her eyes are focused on the tennis ball held by the opponent. Knees are relaxed and the hands are holding the racket with a relaxed grip.

**Step 2: The Back Swing:** Once Jill realizes that the ball has been directed to her forehand, she will turn her upper body and will take the racket back. Notice that the left hand is up in front to allow her to keep her center of gravity in the center. She has loaded her weight on her right foot and will be ready to step

forward to meet the ball

**Step 3: The Point of Contact:** Jill now is ready to step into the ball. She has kept her eye on the ball and her center of gravity now is shifted to the point of contact. Notice the left knee being slightly bent and the left foot is pointing to the ball meeting the racket

**Step 4: The Extension of the Point of Contact:** Jill is now directing the ball toward the opponent's court. Her eyes have now shifted toward her target and her body weight is now fully in front of her left foot. The left hand is still helping to keep the center of gravity in the center without opening up too early.

**Step 5: The Follow Through:** Once Jill has finished her stroke, the momentum of the racket continues to move almost to a point behind her neck. Her left hand is next to her body and her right elbow is pointing toward her target. Her body is now ready to take the “split step” with both feet in order to prepare for the opponent's returned shot.

Look for in the next Newsletter: The Two Handed Backhand Service Return

# LEGENDS RANCH

## Dead spots in the lawn? Look for chinch bugs....

Chinch bugs often appear in Texas lawns during hot, dry conditions. Usually damage starts in sunny locations or near driveway and sidewalk areas. Damage appears as irregular dead patches in the lawn surrounded by yellowing or dying grass. Chinch bug damage can be mistaken for other lawn problems like white grubs or fungal diseases, so confirmation of chinch bug activity is needed before choosing proper treatment.

So how do you tell if you have chinch bugs? The easiest way is to look for the insects. One way to look is to cut both ends out of a can, push it into the ground using a twisting motion and then fill the can with water for about 10 minutes and wait for any bugs to float to the top. Another way would be to get down on your hands and knees and part the grass to look for the insects. For both methods, samples should be taken in the damaged (yellowed grass), not dead, grass areas.

Chinch bugs are small (about 1/5 of an inch as adults; immatures are smaller). Adults are black with white wings containing triangular markings. Nymphs, or immatures, are yellowish or pinkish with a light colored band across their body. Nymphs do not have fully developed wings.

Treatment is usually a liquid or granular formulation. Liquid formulations are often bottles that attach to the end of the garden hose or concentrates that you mix with water in a tank sprayer. Granular formulations are applied with push spreaders and need to be watered in after treatment.

Treatment should be applied to the area where damage is occurring and several feet out from the damaged area; the entire yard does not have to be treated. All label instructions should be read and followed before and during the treatment.

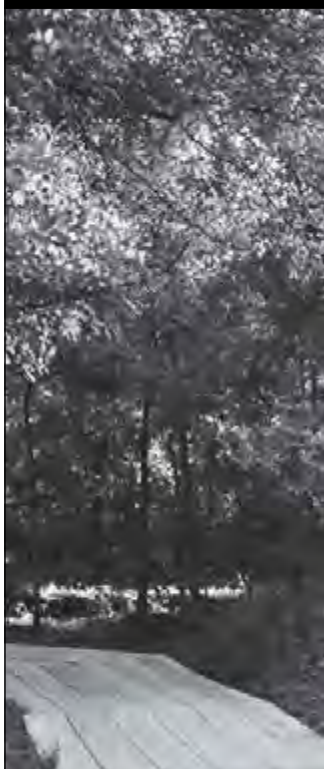
For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at [www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com](http://www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com)

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## Best Foods & Fitness Matchups

It's a common problem: You're going for the final stretch, looking for that extra push to help you burn just a few more calories, but suddenly you're out of gas. You're not alone. "The muscles maximally absorb nutrients from food during the first 30 minutes after a workout," says Roberta Anding, M.S., R.D., national spokesperson for the American Dietetic Association.

What to do? Fuel up with the right stuff before you hit the gym, and don't forget a recovery meal post-workout. Try one of these winning combinations before your next workout, and see if you don't find that extra oomph you've been missing.

**Weight Training + Protein:** Combining a high-protein diet with strength training can help dieters lose more weight — and you lose fat, not muscle. Protein not only builds muscles but it also helps repair them after a workout. "The winning combination is typically four grams of carbs for every one gram of protein (think skim chocolate milk, energy bars, a turkey sandwich on whole wheat)," says Anding.

**Long Distance Running + Carbohydrates:** For long workouts, the performance edge goes to people who have the most glycogen (the

stored form of carbohydrates). When you eat pasta or other starchy food, the body converts those carbohydrates into muscle glycogen for fuel. Hence the reason marathoners "carbo-load" the night before a big race. The trouble comes in when you eat more carbs than you need, because unused carbs can also be stored as fat!

**Aerobics, Kickboxing and Spinning + Fat:** For activities that involve repetitive joint action, monounsaturated fats from fish, nuts, seeds and canola, olive and peanut oils can help lubricate the joints while also providing high-quality protein to power you through a workout. An added bonus: These fats also reduce post workout soreness and stiff muscles.

**Yoga and Pilates + Complex Carbohydrates:** The fiber from whole grains and vegetables slows the digestion of food, allowing your body more time to absorb critical nutrients. And since most yoga and Pilates classes require fasting for two hours before class, the long lasting effects of fiber will help sustain you through a few hours without food.



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## Pasta Salad

- 4 cups Elbow Macaroni
- 3 whole Roasted Red Peppers Chopped (more to taste, can also use Pimentos)
- 1/2 cups Black olives - chopped fine/ can use Calamari olives
- Add pepperoncinis sliced - to taste
- 6 whole Dill pickle slices -diced about 1/2 cup diced
- 3 whole Green onions sliced - white and dark green parts
- 1/2 cups Mayonnaise
- 1 Tablespoon Red Wine or Distilled Vinegar
- 3 teaspoon Sugar more or less to taste
- 1/4 Salt teaspoon
- Plenty of black pepper
- 1/4 cup Milk - more if needed
- Splash of Pickle juice - add more if needed/ can also add pepperoncinis juice also

Cook Macaroni in lightly salted water according to package directions. Drain and rinse under cold water to cool. Set aside.

Mix together mayo, vinegar, sugar, salt & pepper. Splash in enough milk (1/4 of milk) to make it pourable. Splash in pickle juice for extra flavor. Taste & adjust seasonings as needed. Set aside.

Place cooled Macaroni in a large bowl and pour 3/4 of the dressing. Toss and add more dressing if you if you like. (Dressing will seem a little thin, but it will thicken up as salad chills).

Stir in olives, Roasted red peppers( or Pimentos), pickles, and green onions. Add more of any ingredient if you'd like stuff going on. At the end, splash in a little more pickle juice and stir.

Chill for at least 2 hours before serving. Sprinkle with sliced green onion to serve.

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## NatureWatch

### SUMMER SULPHURS

*by Jim and Lynne Weber*

The family of butterflies known as Pieridae includes the whites and sulphurs, our most conspicuous and abundant butterfly species. They easily draw the attention of even the most casual observer as they flit about our gardens, fields, and open habitats in summer. Sulphurs are usually some shade of yellow, orange, or white, and avidly visit flowers. Their uppersides often feature black borders or patterns and while they usually perch closed, these patterns can sometimes be seen faintly through the wing or glimpsed in flight. The most widespread sulphurs in our area include the Orange Sulphur (*Colias eurytheme*), Southern Dogface (*Zerene cesonia*), Little Yellow (*Pyrisitia lisa*), and Dainty Sulphur (*Nathalis iole*).

Found throughout most of North America, the coloration of the Orange Sulphur can be quite variable, but the typical male has a yellow upperside with orange overlay, yellow veins, a wide black border, and a dark black cell spot. Females can be yellow or white with an irregular black border surrounding several light spots. Both sexes have a silver spot surrounded by two concentric dark rings and a spot above it on the underside of the hindwing. With a wingspan of about 1.5 to almost 3 inches, males patrol around for receptive females, who lay eggs singly on the leaf tops of host plants in the pea family, such as alfalfa and clovers. Orange Sulphurs have 4 to 5 broods from March to November, and overwinter in the chrysalid form.

The Southern Dogface is easily identified by both sexes having the shape of a yellow dog's head surrounded by black on the upperside of their forewings, with the black and white 'eye' not touching the black border. The underside of the hindwing in summer is pale to bright yellow, becoming tinged with pink markings in the fall. With a wingspan of 2 to 3 inches, the males seek out females who lay eggs on the undersides of terminal leaves of host plants such as alfalfa, clovers, and indigo. Three broods are produced almost year round, with adults overwintering in reproductive arrest during the coldest months.

As their name suggests, Little Yellow butterflies are on the small side with a wingspan of 1 to 2 inches. The upperside of the male has a yellow forewing with a wide black tip or apex and a hindwing with a black border. While the female is usually yellow and sometimes white with black borders, both sexes usually have two tiny black dots at the base of the hindwing underside. Four to five broods occur in the south, and females lay eggs singly on midveins or between leaflets of partridge pea, wild sensitive plants, and sennas.

Our smallest sulphur, the Dainty Sulphur, has a wingspan of  $\frac{3}{4}$  to slightly over 1 inch, and is identified by a yellow upperside with

black markings that are more extensive on the female. The underside of the forewing has an orange or yellow patch near the base with a few strong black spots closer to the outer wing edge. In summer, the hindwing underside is pale yellow, and turns to dusty green in winter. Both males and females tend to fly low, rest with their wings closed and held perpendicular to sun's rays to gather warmth, and overwinter in adult form. Flying year round, the females lay single eggs on sneezeweed, dogweed, and other asters.

Send your nature-related questions to [naturewatch@austin.rr.com](mailto:naturewatch@austin.rr.com) and we'll do our best to answer them. Check out our book, *Nature Watch Austin*, published by Texas A&M University Press, and our blog at [naturewatchaustin.blogspot.com](http://naturewatchaustin.blogspot.com) if you enjoy reading these articles!

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- David and Carol Emmons

Mr. Rubio provided excellent service on a rather difficult transaction. His personality makes him easy to work with and his dedication is genuine. I'm grateful to have met him and will enlist him in my next transaction.

-Tammye S.

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