



The HOME FRONT

SEPTEMBER 2016

Official Publication of Legends Ranch Property Owners Association

VOL 10, ISSUE 9

Last Month's POA Agenda

Last Month's POA Agenda which was the Annual Meeting for 2016. The notice read:

As a member of the Property Owners Association of Legends Ranch, you are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting of the Association to be held at the time and place listed below: Date: Tuesday, August 30, 2016 Time: 7 pm to 8:45 pm (Registration to commence at 6:45 pm) Place: Faith United Methodist Church, 2403 Rayford Rd., Spring, TX 77386.

Your attendance at this meeting is very important to the association. The purpose of the meeting is to elect board members to fill all vacancies and to discuss association business. In accordance with Property Owners Association of Legends Ranch Amendment to By-Laws recorded in Montgomery County on November 13, 2012, the affairs of the association shall be governed by a Board of Directors composed of five (5) Directors. All Directors must be in good standing as defined by Texas Property Code Section 209.00591 and must also be members of the Association or a designated representative of a corporation or other business entity that is a member of the Association.

At this meeting, the members shall elect (1) Director for a term of (3) years each. The individual listed on the enclosed proxy has indicated interest in running for the vacancy. Any candidate questionnaire forms, that have been submitted, are available for viewing at the association Clubhouse. Please note that nominations will also be taken from the floor at the meeting for those residents who have a desire to serve but did not submit a candidate questionnaire. There is also a space for a write-in candidate on the enclosed proxy.

Agenda: I. Confirm Quorum and Call Meeting to Order (7 pm), II. Introduction of Board Members & Management Company Representatives, III. President's Report, IV. Financial Report, V. Election of (1) Director. A. Nominations from the Floor, B. Introduction of Nominees, C. Vote, D. Election Results *Please note that "Homeowner Segment Q&A" may commence while votes are being tallied. VI. A Homeowner Segment Q&A * A three minute time limit will be utilized during the Q&A portion of the meeting due to time constraints. VII. Adjournment Comprehensive community

management solutions.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, it is requested that your proxy be submitted to assist the association in reaching quorum requirements which is needed to conduct the Annual Meeting. The members holding at least five percent (5% or 75 lots) of the total number of votes in the association shall constitute a quorum.

If the 2016 Annual Meeting of the Association cannot be held because a quorum is not present, a majority of those in attendance may adjourn the meeting and reconvene at a time not less than five (5) days and not more than forty-five (45) days from the time the original meeting was called. The deadline to submit a proxy other than those being hand delivered to the meeting is 5:00 pm on Monday, August 29, 2016.

Proxies may be submitted via any of the following methods: - Via email to LEGRANCH@ciramail.com - Via fax to 281-681-9755 - Via mail to: POA of Legends Ranch 2801 Legends Ranch Dr. Spring, TX 77386 - Hand deliver to Legends Ranch Clubhouse during normal business hours - Send proxy to Annual Meeting via neighbor. Questions may be directed to Cathy Winfield or Cicely Towers-Harris, On-Site Managers, at 281-681-9750 or via email to legranch@ciramail.com. We look forward to your participation to make this a successful meeting. Sincerely, Board of Directors Property Owners Association of Legends Ranch

SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS:

Thanks for a fantastic National Night Out last month; it was a great success!

Semi-Annual Garage Sale coming a Saturday in October. Open to the public. 7am-12pm. To be included on the Garage Sale Map, please email Robert at rmaze52@att.net with your last name, address and short list summarizing items you plan to sell. Look for event details once available at: www.facebook.com/groups/LegendsRanch

Annual Fall Festival coming a Saturday in October. Look for event details once available at: www.facebook.com/groups/LegendsRanch & Stay tuned for Banners posted by the gates closer to the festival date. Social Committee contact: LRsocialcommittee@gmail.com

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

Conroe ISD	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:

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Zack Hall

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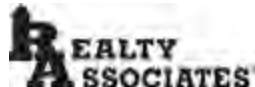


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Legends Ranch

Pool Schedule & Hours August & September 2016

Clubhouse Pool:

Open Weekends: Sept 3, 4, 5 (Labor Day), 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25, Hours: 12-8pm

Note: Adult Swim 18 & up sign- up with Property Manager

Splashpad Pool:

Open Weekends: Sept 3, 4, 5 (Labor Day), 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25, Hours: 10am-8pm

Note: The Spray-ground "Pad" section may be turned on when the Property Manager's on-duty to turn it on & off Mon/Wed/Th/Fri/Sat, Hours: 10am-6pm; Closed Tuesdays.

Thanks for a great pool season! Regular Pool Season falls in June-August when Conroe ISD is not in session. Lifeguards return for weekends in May 2017 sometime. May & September serve as Off-Season transition months entering & exiting Pool Season.



Hurricane Preparedness

Each year NOAA and the American Red Cross publishes a preparedness guide of tropical cyclones to help us prepare for such an emergency. You can download a copy of that guide at <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/hurricane/resources/TropicalCyclones11.pdf>. This guide gives great information on the metrological terms associated with tropical storms and what to expect from those storms. Most importantly, it lists critical information about how to prepare for an incoming storm.

Guidelines each year prior to hurricane season:

- Determine safe evacuation routes inland
- Learn locations of official shelters
- Check emergency equipment such as flashlights, generators and battery powered equipment such as cell phones and your NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards receiver.
- Buy food that will not spoil and store drinking water.
- Buy plywood or other material to protect your home if you don't have it.
- Trim trees and shrubbery so branches don't fly into your home.
- Clear clogged rain gutters and downspouts.
- Decide where to move your boat if applicable.
- Review your insurance policy.
- Find pet friendly hotels on your evacuation route.

During the storm and when in the warning area, you should:

- Closely monitor radio, TV or NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards for official bulletins.
- Close storm shutters.
- Follow instructions issued by local officials. Leave immediately if ordered.
- Stay with friends or relatives at a low-rise inland hotel or at designated public shelter outside of the flood zone.
- DO NOT stay in a mobile home or manufactured home.
- Notify neighbors and a family member outside of the warned area of your evacuation plans.
- Take pets with you, but remember that most public shelters do not allow pets other than service pets for people with disabilities.
- Identify pet friendly hotels along your evacuation route.

(Continued on Page 5)

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If you are staying home to “hunker” out the storm:

- Turn refrigerator to maximum cold and keep it closed.
- Turn off utilities if told to do so by authorities.
- Turn off propane gas tanks.
- Unplug small appliances.
- Fill bathtub and large containers with water in case clean tap water is unavailable. Use water in bathtubs for cleaning and flushing only. Do NOT drink it.
- Stay away from windows and doors, even if they are covered. Take refuge in a small interior room, closet or hallway.
- Close all interior doors. Secure and brace exterior doors.
- If you are in a two-story house, go to an interior first floor room.
- If you are in a multi-story building and away from water, go to the first or second floor and stay in the hallways or other interior rooms away from windows.
- Lie on the floor under a table or other sturdy object.



The Texas Driver (from the Texas Driver Handbook)

FLOODS

- Six inches of water will reach the bottom of most passenger cars, causing loss of control and possible stalling.
- Twelve inches of water will float many cars.
- Two feet of water will carry away pick-up trucks, and most other vehicles
- Water across a road may hide a missing segment of roadbed or a missing bridge. Roads weaken under floodwater, get out quickly and move to higher ground. Better yet, when there's water on the road, Turn Around. Don't Drown. Saving your life may be as simple as choosing an alternate route.

A large advertisement for Texas Direct Auto. It features a black and white photograph of a football player in a helmet and jersey, with the number 87 visible on his back. He is raising his right fist in a celebratory gesture. The background is dark with some light effects. Overlaid on the image is the text "SCORE MORE" in large, bold, white capital letters on the left side. At the bottom, it says "SELL US YOUR CAR!" in large, bold, white capital letters, followed by "TEXASDIRECTAUTO.COM" in a smaller font. There is a small registered trademark symbol (®) next to the website name.

National Night Out 2016



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

National Night Out is a great opportunity for citizens and law enforcement to partner up against crime.

This year, National Night Out is Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016, from 7 to 9 p.m.

National Night Out is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness
- Generate support and participation in crime efforts
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police community relations
- Let criminals know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back

During the event, residents in neighborhoods throughout Austin and across the nation are asked to turn on their porch lights, lock their doors and spend the evening outside with their neighbors, police officers, firefighters and EMS paramedics. Events such as cookouts, block parties and neighborhood walks will all occur simultaneously throughout the city and nationwide.



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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TENNIS TIPS

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



How to Execute The Backhand 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, the overhead “smash” and the forehand service return.

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, Susan Herb, player at the Grey Rock Tennis Club, shows the proper technique to execute this stroke.

Step 1: The Ready Position: When Susan 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 Susan 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 left foot and will be ready to step forward to meet the ball.

Step 3: The Point of Contact: Susan 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 right knee being slightly bent and the right foot is pointing to the ball meeting the racket.

Step 5: The Follow Through: Once Susan 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 left 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.



Crickets

Field crickets are a common sight around homes in late summer into autumn. These insects are about 1" long when fully grown. Crickets are dark brown to black with large hind legs used for jumping. They also have two cerci, or appendages that come off the tip of the abdomen. Female crickets have a large sword-like structure, the ovipositor, protruding from the tip of the abdomen. The ovipositor is used to deposit eggs into soil.

Crickets feed on plant material as well as other insects. They are able to cause damage to seedlings and sometimes large populations can be destructive. Large masses of dead crickets around doorways or other areas can be distasteful to view and cause a foul odor.

Field crickets are primarily outdoor insects, but may occasionally venture indoors. When crickets do come indoors, they may bother residents with their chirping. Males chirp to attract a mate creating the sound by rubbing their forewings together.

Cricket management is more easily accomplished in the summer when nymphs, who cannot fly, are present. Unfortunately, this usually isn't when large populations of crickets are discovered.

Before turning to pesticides to manage your cricket problems, try these ideas:

- Turn off outside lights at night or use bulbs that are less attractive to insects
- Seal cracks & crevices where insects can enter with sealant
- Remove debris stacked near the structure
- Keep lawn & surrounding areas mowed
- Stuff weep holes with copper mesh

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 <http://www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com>

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PET OF THE MONTH

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Randy is 9 weeks old. Mom dog was found pregnant and had her puppies. The mom dog was a white fluffy dog (Westie/Shih Tzu Mix). We do not know what breed the father dog was. These puppies will be medium size max when full grown but may be smaller (their mom was only 15-18 lbs). Randy is a fun loving puppy who would love to find his forever home!

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Overnight Coffee Cake

Recipe provided by Sherry Watson. The original source is unknown (cut from an old magazine many years ago). This recipe is unbelievably simple, but it makes a beautiful presentation at the table.

- 1 pkg. frozen cloverleaf roll dough (about 25 rolls)
- 1 pkg. (four-serving size) vanilla pudding mix (not instant)
- ½ cup brown sugar
- ½ cup pecans, chopped
- 1 stick butter, melted

Separate frozen roll dough into pieces (each cloverleaf makes three pieces). Other rolls will work, but with larger pieces of dough, use only 20; more may be too many for your pan.

Combine dry pudding mix with brown sugar and pecans.

Melt butter.

Place pieces of frozen roll dough in a well-buttered Bundt pan. (Do not use angel food pan; butter leaks out!) Pour melted butter over frozen dough and sprinkle with pudding mixture.

Leave cake pan out overnight; the dough rises beautifully by morning. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Invert on serving plate to serve. Sticky – but good!



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NatureWatch SUN TRACKERS

by Jim and Lynne Weber

Common Sunflower



Maximilian Sunflower



This time of year, the most notable family of plants are the Helianthus, or sunflowers. From the Greek 'helios' or sun and 'anthos' or flower, these plants are usually tall annuals or perennials that during their growth phase exhibit a subtle behavior in the daylight hours. This behavior, called heliotropism, is the ability for the young flower buds and leaves to gently tilt toward the sun, tracking it as it moves across the sky. By the time the flower heads mature, they are stationary but generally facing east to greet the rising sun.

Sunflowers are typically tall plants with one to multiple flower heads, consisting of bright yellow ray florets or flowers, surrounding yellow or maroon disc florets. In wild or native species, the rough and hairy stems are normally branched, and the leaves are often sticky and lance or heart-shaped. Sunflowers also exhibit phyllotaxis, or the arrangement of leaves on a stem that forms a distinct pattern, in this case a repeating spiral. Additionally, the disc florets also display a phyllotactic pattern, one that creates the optical effect of criss-crossing spirals in the flower's center.

In our area, the two most abundant sunflowers are the Common Sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*) and the Maximilian Sunflower (*Helianthus maximiliani*). Blooming from May to October, the Common Sunflower grows on dry soils, especially in disturbed areas. It can reach 1.5 to 8 feet tall, and various parts of the branched stems can be either green or dark purple. The heart-shaped leaves are coarse and covered in rough hairs, and grow from 2.5 to 10 inches long. Up to 4 inches across, the flower heads have yellow ray flowers and reddish brown disc flowers. As their scientific name suggests, these plants are annuals.

Maximilian Sunflowers, on the other hand, are perennials that bloom in September and October. They grow 1 to 6 feet tall in colonies on both the dry ground of prairies and the moist ground of roadside ditches and other low places. Shorter, rough hairs cover the narrow lance-shaped leaves, which average 2 to 4 inches long. The 1.5 to 3 inch wide flower heads have yellow ray flowers surrounding

yellow disc flowers, with numerous flower heads growing along the unbranched stems.

Aside from their aesthetic value to humans, sunflowers are generally palatable to deer and numerous species of birds eat their seeds. Their flower heads support nectaring bees, and they are the food plants for several butterfly species such as the Bordered Patch and Silvery Checkerspot. When mixed with other native annuals, these sun trackers provide good cover for many species of wildlife, and would be a great addition to your native wildscape.

Send your nature-related questions to 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 if you enjoy reading these articles!

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Social Media Safety

Social media has many benefits—it allows you to maintain connections with friends, make new contacts, build support networks, express yourself and share your interests. However, information should be shared with caution to protect yourself and your family. Here are seven top tips for social media safety:

1. Your personal information should be just that—personal. As hackers become more and more sophisticated, identity theft becomes a greater risk. And while it may be tempting to post pictures of your fabulous vacation, bear in mind that you're also letting others know you're away from home—making you vulnerable to a break in.
2. Use privacy and security settings to limit who can see what you share online. You wouldn't give details of your private life to complete strangers in person, so don't do it online either.
3. Remember that what you post online will stay online, so consider the long-term consequences. Could your social media presence prevent you from securing a job in the future? Would you want your coworkers to see this side of you?
4. Let your social network know your boundaries. For example, if you don't want images of yourself or your children posted online, let your friends and family members know.

5. Know what to do if someone is making you feel unsafe online. Some steps you can take include blocking the offender, reporting the person to the site administrator and removing him or her from your friends list.

6. Social media doesn't just spread information, it can also spread viruses and other risks to your computer. Defend your system by using the latest security software and web browser and installing updates regularly.

7. Protect your social media accounts by using password best practices. Long combinations of letters, numbers and symbols are the most secure, and separate passwords should be used for each account.





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82 Texas children have already fatally drowned in 2016

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Down the Drain



Washing your car may seem like a great way to beat the heat this summer while accomplishing something constructive on your to-do list. But you might want to think twice about the environmental impact before you park your car in the driveway and pull out your bucket, hose and old towels.

Even if you use a biodegradable cleaner, the soapy water that runs off your car when you hose it down not only contains detergent, but residue from automobile fluids like oil, gasoline and antifreeze. Each time you rinse your car, the contaminated water flows untreated directly into the stormwater system and eventually makes its way into streams and rivers. And, as the water runs out of your driveway and down the street toward the storm sewer, it also picks up other toxic

substances, like fertilizers, petroleum deposits and surface paint from the pavement. Parking your car on a grassy area while you wash it may help some, but the toxins will end up in the groundwater eventually.

As an alternative, consider using a commercial carwash facility. Whether a conveyor type, self-service, in-bay automatic or custom hand-wash business, these establishments are required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to capture and route their wastewater to a treatment facility before the water can be discharged into the sanitary sewer.

Toxic residues aren't the only reason to take your car to a commercial car wash. Rinsing your car at home with a garden hose can use as much as 10 to 15 gallons of water per minute, while professional car wash facilities can limit the water flow to as little as three to five gallons per minute. If you spend an hour in your driveway washing your car, you may have sent as much as 150 gallons of contaminated water directly down the drain. This is especially important in long summer dry spells.

So help the environment and save time this summer: leave car washing to the professionals.

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