

February 2017 • Volume 11, Issue 2

RANCH RECORD

News for the Residents of Blackhorse Ranch



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA Troop 533 & 1907

FUNDRAISER

Good Shepherd United Methodist Church and Fairfield Baptist Church

If you are looking to beautify your landscape and bring your lawn back to life, then you will be interested to know it is that time of year again for fertilizer and mulch sold to you and delivered to your home by your local boy scouts this spring!

Troop 533 chartered by GSUMC and Troop 1907 chartered by FBC have joined forces once again to conduct their annual fertilizer and mulch fundraiser starting January 9, 2017. Troop 533 has delivered to homes in the Cypress community for more than 10 years and is proud to continue this tradition with Troop 1907. Scouting makes a direct and positive impact on your community by teaching positive values and leadership skills to our youth. Your support ensures Scouting will continue building character, fitness and citizenship for years to come.

The funds from your purchase will directly benefit the troop, and each individual scout, on their continued journey through the scouting program. The proceeds from each scout's sales will help fund activities such as High Adventure Camp, Summer

Camp, Treks, monthly troop campouts and so much more. By purchasing your lawn mulch and fertilizer from the scouts, you are directly supporting scouting programs where you live – programs that clean up your parks, gather food for the area needy and even help your community prepare for disaster.

This year's offerings include red, black, hardwood or pine bark mulch as well as premium or slow release fertilizer and weed n feed fertilizer. Scouts will be visiting your neighborhood soon! All purchases will be delivered by the Scouts on February 25, 2017.

For your convenience, Scouts will be selling door to door in your subdivision beginning January 9th. If you are reading this circular and think we may miss you, please order by emailing Troop 533 at BoyScoutsTroop533@yahoo.com.

Yours in Scouting,

Scoutmaster Louis Mayer (Troop 533) and

Scoutmaster Chad Gaulding (Troop 1907)



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	911
Fire	911
Ambulance	911
Harris County Sheriff.....	713-221-6000
Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Dept. Bus. Office	281-550-6663

AREA HOSPITALS

Cy-Fair Medical Center	281-897-3300
North Cypress Medical Center	281-477-0830
Willowbrook Methodist	281-477-1000

SCHOOLS

Cy-Fair ISD	281-897-4000
Warner Elementary School.....	281-213-1645
Spillane Middle School	281-213-1645
Cy Woods High School.....	281-213-1727
Cy Fair High School.....	281-897-4600
Cypress Ranch High School	281-373-2300

PUBLIC SERVICES

Cypress Post Office	281-373-9125
Drivers License Info.	281-955-1100
Harris County Tax	713-224-1919

UTILITIES

En-Touch (Customer Service)	281-225-1000
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NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc.....	888-687-6444
Article Submissions	blackhorse@peelinc.com
Advertising.....	advertising@peelinc.com

Don't want to wait for the mail?

View the current issue of the
Ranch Record on the 1st day
of each month at www.PEELinc.com

Advertising Information

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Ranch Record. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Blackhorse Ranch residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales office at 888-687-6444 or advertising@PEELinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 8th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

CFISD Superintendent's Fun Run & Festival

Registration is now open for the fourth annual CFISD Superintendent's Fun Run & Festival, set for Feb. 18, 2017 from 8 a.m. to noon at the Berry Center (8877 Barker Cypress Road) and Towne Lake. Underwritten by Cypress Fairbanks Medical Center Hospital, the fun run supports student scholarships through the Cy-Fair Educational Foundation.

Options include a chip-timed 5K run, a 1-mile run/walk and a family fun path. Children's games and activities, music entertainment and food trucks make this a fun event for the entire family.

Register by Jan. 6 and receive an early bird discount of \$5 off! Find more information and register at www.cfis.net/funrun.



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WE'RE HIRING!

Cypress-Fairbanks ISD is now hiring for the spring season of the SPLASH! swim lessons program. The season begins Feb. 27 and runs through May 18. Lessons take place Monday-Thursday, with three time slots offered for participants beginning at 5 p.m. Instructors are needed for all time slots and instructors may be scheduled for up to three hours per night depending on availability and enrollment. Applicants should possess strong swimming skills, excellent communication skills and a desire to work with children, as well as the ability to occasionally teach beginning level adult swimmers. Hourly rates begin at \$18/hour.

Interested individuals should email communityprograms@cfisd.net or call 281-517-6841.

Deep Cypress Gardens

Wednesday, February 15th: Lunch and Learn at Café Marrese from 11:00am-1:00pm. Guests are encouraged to attend to hear about the Deep Cypress Gardens by the Deep Cypress Alliance. Guests are encouraged to arrive promptly, as keynote speakers will begin shortly after 11 AM. The Deep Cypress Gardens has been a project in the works for quite some time, and we are excited to share our plans with the Cypress community.

Box lunches will be available for purchase, and beverages will be provided. Please RSVP by email at lindsey@endicottpr.com, or by phone at 281-509-9576 EXT 4.

Saturday, February 25th: Groundbreaking event onsite at Deep Cypress Gardens. Details TBD.



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Jack and Jill of America Associates Plan "Puttin' on the Ritz" Charity Gala

The "Awesome, Amazing, Associates" of the Jack and Jill of America, Inc., North Houston Suburban Chapter will hold a "Puttin' on the Ritz" dance on Saturday, March 4th, 2017. The event will be take place from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. at the Northgate Country Club, 17110 Northgate Forest Drive, Houston, Texas. The suggested attire is formal black and white.

"Puttin' on the Ritz" will benefit the Jack and Jill of America Foundation, which supports education, literacy, scientific and charitable projects that benefit children. Tickets are \$65 per person. To purchase tickets, please contact Shirley Carter, at 281-222-7765 or sjmcarter@att.net.

Jack and Jill of America, Inc. is a non-profit family organization which is dedicated to nurturing future leaders by supporting children through leadership development, volunteer service, philanthropic giving and civic duty. More information about the organization can be found at www.jackandjillinc.org.

Smart Talk About Home Remodeling

The temperatures feel like Spring already and the time of year that you start looking at your home and thinking about remodeling is almost here. You may have noticed that the outside of your home needs a little work or you may be looking at putting your home on the market. When it comes to remodeling, where do you start?

Every year, "Remodeling" magazine looks at the average costs of home remodeling projects with the value of those projects retain at resale in over 100 U.S. cities. The smartest investment that you can make when remodeling may surprise you. Many homeowners go to the time honored update of the kitchen and bathrooms to garner the best price per square foot at resale.

However, "Remodeling" magazine ranks "re-siding with fiber cement as the #1 return on investment when compared to other mid-size remodeling projects" for the fourth year in a row. Compared to adding a bathroom, re-siding your house with fiber cement nets a 25 percent higher return on investment. Re-siding with fiber cement will also increase your return by 11 percent over vinyl windows and a whopping 24 percent greater than a major kitchen remodel or roof replacement.

The next question in remodeling is who to trust with your home remodeling project. Choose a company with a good reputation that offers solutions for your remodeling needs. Ask trusted friends for recommendations, check out the company's BBB rating and know that the cheapest estimate may not always be the best. Michael Berry, KTRH 740AM personality and host of the Michael Berry Show, endorses Houston Siding. Berry states, "I have spoken for Houston Siding Company for 10 years and have never had a complaint."

Texas has its own set of challenges with temperatures in the highs and lows as well as high humidity and storm potential. With a familiar slogan in Texas being "if you don't like the temperature just wait a few minutes," you should look for products that are durable as well as suited for the climate.

An innovative product from James Hardie brings new technology to siding. James Hardie Insulated Lap Siding offers siding backed with foam insulation. It is engineered to keep your home cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter. Because foam insulation helps maintain a more consistent temperature in your home, it can help reduce your energy bills and conserve resources for long-term energy efficiency. James Hardie insulated siding is available at Houston Siding, a James Hardie Elite Preferred Contractor.

As Spring time approaches and remodeling projects start, you want to ensure that you're using the best possible products and company for your next remodeling project.

ABOUT HOUSTON SIDING

Houston Siding Company is a Houston based company that provides replacement siding, installation and repairs along with windows and roofing. They were established in 1991. They are a James Hardie Elite Preferred Contractor. For more information, please see www.houstonsiding.com.

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Women Empowering Women Express Network

The Women Empowering Women Express Network (WEWEN) of the American Business Women's Association (ABWA) invites you to attend a Monthly Networking Luncheon on February 1, 2017. The luncheon will be held at the Raveneaux Country Club at 20515 State Hwy 249, Houston, Texas 77070. Open Networking begins at 11:00AM, followed by an informative program and lunch from 11:30AM-1:00PM. This month's program features Marie Myers, Senior Vice-President of Finance, HP Inc., presenting a program titled, "Finance is a Field that Goes Far Beyond Administration for Successful Businesses!"

Marie Myers is an internationally recognized business leader and expert in global information technology, finance, and business strategy.

As Senior Vice-President of Finance for HP Inc. in Houston Texas, Myers oversees the Global Controllershship and Financial Shared Services organizations.

Following her graduation from the University of Queensland with a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Economics, Myers worked as an economist for the Australian government before setting her sights firmly on an international career and moving overseas to eventually join Compaq, which was bought out by Hewlett Packard.

Myers impressive list of achievements within Hewlett Packard over 20 years include directing the largest financial division in business history,

leading the change management of 2,500 employees internationally, and overseeing revenue in excess of \$50 billion.

Myers is not only renown for her skills as a leader in business and technical acumen, but for her ability to coach, direct and run diverse teams, and her dedication to mentoring and developing people, which has earned her the admiration and respect of her peers throughout the industry.

Myers is a passionate supporter of young women, and has provided mentorships for women at University of St Thomas in Houston, and is a regular panelist, speaker and presenter on diversity and improving the status of women.

Expand your network, grow your business skills, reach a new audience, or advance your career with the Women Empowering Women Express Network of ABWA. WEWEN meets the first Wednesday of each month from 11AM-1PM. Additional details and luncheon registration (\$25) are available at wewen.org. Contact communications@wewen.org with questions.

About ABWA

Founded in 1949, ABWA provides business training and networking opportunities for women of diverse occupations and backgrounds. ABWA has dedicated 65 years to women's education, workplace skills, and career development training. For more information, visit abwa.org.



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RANCH RECORD

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AHFC Junior Hurricanes (JHSL) Registration Now For Spring 2017 Open

The Junior Hurricanes Soccer League (JHSL) is led by professional United States Soccer Federation (USSF) licensed staff and is designed for boys & girls who want to play and have fun in a safe and developmentally appropriate environment. The JHSL program is being offered at multiple locations and in conjunction with CFSA at the Schiel Road Complex. To learn more about each location and to register please visit www.albionhurricanes.org.

For those wishing only to train, join us in Katy for AHFC Friday Night Academy. Visit Katy Youth Soccer to register for this Friday Fun Program.

AHFC is proud to partner with New Territory and offer New Territory Thursday Night Academy, a 5-week Skills Program.

Email us at jhsl@albionhurricanes.org for more information or questions. Office Phone: 713-939-7473

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Common Structural Termites

There are three main types of termites that can cause problems for homeowners in Texas- native subterranean termites, formosan subterranean termites and drywood termites.

Native subterranean termites have nests in the soil and must maintain contact with soil or an above-ground moisture source to survive. If native subterranean termites move to areas above ground they make shelter (mud) tubes of fecal material, saliva and soil to protect themselves.



Native subterranean termite workers and soldiers.

Formosan termites are a more voracious type of subterranean termite. These termites have been spread throughout Texas through transport of infested material or soil. Formosan termites build carton nests that allow them to survive above ground without contact with the soil. Nests are often located in hollow spaces, such as wall voids.



Formosan subterranean termite workers and soldiers.

Formosan termites feed on a wider variety of cellulose than other subterranean termites, including live plants (and can be found living and feeding on trees), consuming both spring and summer growth wood whereas native subterranean termites feed only on spring growth. Formosan termites have also been known to chew through non-cellulose materials such as soft metals, plaster or plastic.

Drywood termites do not need contact with soil and reside in sound, dry wood. These termites obtain moisture from the wood they digest. Drywood termites create a dry fecal pellet that can be used as an identifying characteristic. They have smaller colonies- around 1,000 termites- than subterranean termites; they also do not build shelter tubes.



Drywood termite fecal pellets.

If you are concerned that you may have termites, call a pest management professional to inspect your home for termites.

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

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