

# *The* **RANCH REVIEW**

July 2017 Volume 11, Issue 7

News for the Residents of Legends Ranch



**HAPPY  
FOURTH  
OF JULY!**

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### Property Tax

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

### 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

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Electricity (TXU New Service) .....	281-441-3928
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Water/Municipal Oper. & Consulting .....	281-367-5511
Best Trash .....	281-313-2378
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Cable/Internet/Phone...COMCAST.....	713-341-1000

### Public Services

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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

<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

## NEWSLETTER INFO

### Editor

Submit Articles..... [legendsranch@peelinc.com](mailto:legendsranch@peelinc.com)

### Publisher

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## Introducing "GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS"

We are all very fortunate to call Legends Ranch home. But, Legends Ranch is more than just a place to live; it is a vibrant community brimming with family-friendly neighborhoods, chock-full of fascinating, talented people. Our variety is what makes us so both unique and extraordinary. However, sometimes, we get so busy, we lose sight of how interesting and diverse we've become.

We believe that getting to know the people who live nearby will help us create a sense of belonging and shared identity. We have created a column entitled, "Get to Know Your Neighbors" which we hope will strengthen connections, build trust in our wider community, and contribute to a happier neighborhood for everyone.

If you know of a person or a family that you believe is making Legends Ranch a better place to live, please let us know. We would like to introduce them to your neighbors.

### *Attention Parents of Graduating Seniors!*

We would like to recognize our graduating seniors by including a small picture and a few lines about where your child will be attending college. Please send your information to [articles@peelinc.com](mailto:articles@peelinc.com) (include the newsletter you would like to recognize them in, photo, name, etc).





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## Fourth of July Safety Tips



For many people, nothing beats lounging in the backyard on the Fourth of July with good friends and family—including furry friends. While it may seem

like a great idea to reward your pet with scraps from the grill and bring him along to watch fireworks, in reality some festive foods and activities can be potentially hazardous to him. The ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center offers the following tips:

- Never leave alcoholic drinks unattended where pets can reach them. Alcoholic beverages have the potential to poison pets. If ingested, the animal could become very intoxicated and weak, severely depressed or could go into a coma. Death from respiratory failure is also a possibility in severe cases.

- Do not apply any sunscreen or insect repellent product to your pet that is not labeled specifically for use on animals. Ingestion of sunscreen products can result in drooling, vomiting, diarrhea, excessive thirst and lethargy. The misuse of insect repellent that contains DEET can lead to neurological problems.

- Always keep matches and lighter fluid out of your pets'

reach. Certain types of matches contain chlorates, which could potentially damage blood cells and result in difficulty breathing—or even kidney disease in severe cases. Lighter fluid can be irritating to skin, and if ingested can produce gastrointestinal irritation and central nervous system depression. If lighter fluid is inhaled, aspiration pneumonia and breathing problems could develop.

- Keep your pets on their normal diet. Any change, even for one meal, can give your pet severe indigestion and diarrhea. This is particularly true for older animals who have more delicate digestive systems and nutritional requirements. And keep in mind that foods such as onions, chocolate, coffee, avocado, grapes, raisins, salt and yeast dough can all be potentially toxic to companion animals.

- Do not put glow jewelry on your pets, or allow them to play with it. While the luminescent substance contained in these products is not highly toxic, excessive drooling and gastrointestinal irritation could still result from ingestions, and intestinal blockage could occur from swallowing large pieces of the plastic containers.

- Keep citronella candles, insect coils and tiki torch oil products out of reach. Ingestion can produce stomach irritation and possibly even central nervous system depression. If inhaled, the oils

*(Continued on Page 8)*

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# RANCH REVIEW

## DID YOU KNOW THIS IS ILLEGAL?

*By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center*



Little did Ernesto Pulido know that he was breaking the law when he disturbed the nests of egrets and black-crowned night herons while trimming trees for the U.S. Postal Service in 2014. He was charged with a misdemeanor violation of the

U.S. Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and because he showed remorse, was only fined \$3,000 to cover the cost of rehabilitating the injured baby birds. He could have been fined \$15,000 and faced six months in jail.

Most people are totally unaware of the Act and that it is one of the oldest wildlife protection laws on the books. Simply stated it's a law that protects birds from people. In 1916 the United States entered into a treaty with Great Britain (acting on behalf of Canada) whereby the two countries agree to end the hunting of insect-eating birds and established hunting seasons for game birds. In order to implement the treaty, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act was passed in 1918 by Congress which makes it illegal to "pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill," or "sell" a migratory bird or any of its parts, including nests, eggs, and feathers except under the terms of a valid permit issued pursuant to Federal regulations. The Act mostly came about because birds were needlessly being killed for their feathers which made great fashion accessories. Entire birds were stuffed and attached to the tops of hats. Birds were also being served in restaurants.

In 1936, the USA signed a similar treaty with Mexico. Japan and the Soviet Union were added in the 1970s. In 1972 an amendment to the Act added protection for an additional 32 families of birds including eagles, hawks, owls and corvids. Since then more species have been added to include almost every native species in the USA with a few exceptions like the House Sparrow, the European Starling and the domestic pigeon. Some of the birds don't actually migrate but are still protected under this Act. For a complete listing of protected birds go to:

<https://www.fws.gov/birds/management/managed-species/migratory-bird-treaty-act-protected-species.php>.

It wasn't until 2013 that the Department of Justice enforced the Act for the first time by penalizing a wind farmer for killing Golden Eagles and other birds at two sites in Wyoming. The farmer was fined \$1 million. A second wind farmer was penalized a year later and fined \$2.5 million.

So what does all of this mean to you? Let's say a bird builds a nest above your front door and drops poop everywhere. Can you remove the nest? NO—it's illegal. Can my son take bird

eggs to school for show and tell? NO—it's illegal. We collect bird feathers. Is this okay? NO—it's illegal. I found a nest and I brought it in the house. ILLEGAL. We found a dead Blue Jay and we want to have it "stuffed" for display. Guess what? ILLEGAL. We live on a farm and randomly shoot birds for fun. Is this legal? NO, NO, NO. In July 2007, a man was sentenced to six months in a federal halfway house, five years probation with no contact with firearms, and a fine of a \$65,000 fine for killing protected birds on his property.

Although this law may seem a little silly to the average person, it does serve a purpose. It reminds us that we must learn to live in harmony with wildlife and not purposely disrupt or cause harm to other living beings.

TWRC Wildlife Center serves a great purpose as well. We help wildlife that has been injured, orphaned or displaced and return them to the wild. Your donations help us keep the doors open and allow us to provide this service to the public free of charge. Please see our website for more information on what we do and how you can help. [www.twrcwildlifecenter.org](http://www.twrcwildlifecenter.org)

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(Continued from Page 4)

could cause aspiration pneumonia in pets.

- Never use fireworks around pets! While exposure to lit fireworks can potentially result in severe burns and/or trauma to the face and paws of curious pets, even unused fireworks can pose a danger. Many types contain potentially toxic substances, including potassium nitrate, arsenic and other heavy metals.

- Loud, crowded fireworks displays are no fun for pets, who can become frightened or disoriented by the sound. Please resist the urge to take them to Independence Day festivities, and opt instead to keep them safe from the noise in a quiet, sheltered and escape-proof area at home.

- Be prepared in the event that your pet does escape by downloading the ASPCA Mobile App. You'll receive a personalized missing pet recovery kit, including step-by-step instructions on how to search for a lost animal in a variety of circumstances. And keep your pets' IDs up to date! It's a good idea for all your animal companions—even indoor-only pets—to always wear a collar with an ID tag that includes your name, current phone number and any relevant contact information. July 1 is National ID Your Pet Day, which serves as an annual check-in to make sure your pets' identification tags and microchip information is up to date.

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## STAR-SPANGLED RED, WHITE & BLUE SLAB PIE



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- 3 Pillsbury™ refrigerated pie crusts, softened as directed on box (from 2 boxes)
- ¼ cup sugar
- 2 packages (8 oz each) cream cheese, softened
- 2 containers (6 oz each) Yoplait® Original lemon burst yogurt
- Juice and grated peel of 1 lemon
- (3 tablespoons juice and 1 teaspoon peel)

- 6 cups assorted berries  
(sliced strawberries, blueberries, raspberries and blackberries)
- 1 cup strawberry glaze (from 13.5-oz container)

### Instructions

- 1 Heat oven to 450°F. Remove 2 of the pie crusts from pouches. Unroll and stack on lightly floured surface. Roll to 17x12-inch rectangle. Fit crust into ungreased 15x10x1-inch pan, pressing into corners. Fold crust even with edges of pan. Prick crust several times with fork.
- 2 Bake 10 to 12 minutes or until golden brown. Cool completely, about 30 minutes.
- 3 Meanwhile, remove another pie crust from pouch. On lightly floured surface, unroll crust. Roll to 12-inch circle. Cut stars using 1-, 1 1/2- and 2-inch cookie cutters. Place 1 inch apart on large ungreased cookie sheet. Brush with water; sprinkle with 1 tablespoon of the sugar.
- 4 Bake 5 to 7 minutes or until golden brown. Cool 1 minute on cookie sheet. Remove to cooling rack. Cool completely, about 15 minutes.
- 5 Meanwhile, in medium bowl, beat remaining 3 tablespoons sugar, the cream cheese, yogurt, lemon juice and lemon peel with electric mixer on high speed until smooth and creamy. Spread evenly into crust-lined pan. Refrigerate about 30 minutes or until chilled.
- 6 In large bowl, mix berries and glaze until well blended. Spoon berry mixture evenly on top of cream cheese-topped pie crust. Place pie crust stars on top of berry mixture.

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# RANCH REVIEW

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