

# *The* **RANCH REVIEW**

August 2017 Volume 11, Issue 8

News for the Residents of Legends Ranch



## 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.

## 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

### 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

<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

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# TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION CHIGGERS

Chiggers are the immature stage of a mite. They climb onto people walking through infested areas, crawl upwards, and wander around the body seeking a good site to settle down and feed. Feeding preference for these mites is in areas where skin is thinnest or where clothing fits tightly, such as the ankles, waist, behind the knees, and the groin area.

Chiggers do not burrow into skin as many people believe, so “smothering” them with nail polish is useless. When chiggers feed, they inject a digestive enzyme that breaks down skin cells which are then eaten. Itching and redness is caused by our body reacting to the enzymes injected into our skin. Itching typically begins 3-6 hours after being bitten, peaks at 24 hours, and can last up to two weeks.

The best way to avoid getting chiggers is to avoid infested areas. Since this is not always possible, here are some other things to try:

- Wear protective clothing- tightly woven items that fit loosely; including long sleeves & pants; shoes or boots
- Tuck pant legs into boots
- Avoid sitting on the ground
- Remove & launder clothing ASAP after being in infested areas
- Shower/ bathe after being in an infested area; scrub vigorously with a washcloth
- Use an insect repellent with DEET or picaridin

To treat chigger infestations around the home try the following:

- Keeping lawn trimmed
- Maintain vegetation; do not allow weeds to grow up & keep brush cleared
- Targeted residual pesticide sprays, usually pyrethroids
- For chigger bites:
- Do not scratch pustules; opening pustule might lead to infection
- Oral antihistamines or topical anti-itch creams to relieve itching sensation

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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## DISCOVER THE JOY OF BELONGING



## RANCH REVIEW

# CHINCH BUGS: NO EASY FIX

By Nathan Riggs



The heat and high temps of July and August aren't the only culprits that take a toll on your landscape and lawn. If your St.

Augustine grass is looking sad and jaundiced, it may be under attack.

Summertime means a lot of different things to people — grillin', fun in the sun, barefoot walks in the lawn and other outdoor activities.

Unfortunately, the hot temperatures in July and August also have a daunting impact on local lawns and landscapes by creating water stress. When St. Augustine lawns in full sun become water stressed in July and August, they fall victim to attack by the Southern Chinch Bug (*Blissus insularis*).

Chinch bugs suck the sap from the grass at the point where the blade emerges from the runner, or rhizome. As they feed on the sap, chinch bugs release saliva into the wound, causing the grass to

turn yellow and die.

This yellowing usually begins at a central point and radiates in a circular pattern outward as the chinch bugs expand their feeding area. St. Augustine grass is a chinch bug's favorite meal, but Bermuda and Zoysia grasses may be attacked as well.

Here are a couple of ways to test for chinch bugs in the affected area.

- Drench method: flood an area on the edge of the sick grass with a soapy solution (2 tablespoons of liquid soap to 1 gallon water). If chinch bugs are present, they will emerge from the grass to get away from the soapy water.

- Flotation method: take a metal can with both ends removed and push one end into the ground at the border of the sick grass. Slowly fill with water and see if chinch bugs float up. Repeat for several different areas.

Once you've determined chinch bugs are present, you must target the infestation. To reduce chinch bug populations, treat a 15-foot radius around the damaged area with a liquid insecticide approved for turf grasses. It is NOT NECESSARY to treat the entire yard because a) non-target beneficial insects will be adversely impacted by the treatment, and b) chinch bugs won't be present in the entire yard.

*(Continued on Page 7)*

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## RANCH REVIEW

(Continued from Page 4)

After treatment, you must PATIENTLY rehab the affected turf areas. Do not overwater your grass in an effort to get it back to health because the root system is still recovering from the chinch bug onslaught. Instead, water thoroughly, but infrequently to encourage a deeper, more drought-tolerant root system.

Secondly, avoid over-fertilizing your grass. Too much nutrients in the soil will encourage weed growth as well as place stress on the damaged root system. Aerate the affected turf areas to allow nutrients, water and oxygen to reach the root zone and get those roots back on the road to recovery.

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# MEMORIAL HERMANN ANNOUNCES CHUCK STOKES AS NEW PRESIDENT AND CEO



Memorial Hermann Health System is pleased to announce the appointment of longtime and highly accomplished System Chief Operating Officer (COO) Charles “Chuck” D. Stokes to President and CEO of Memorial Hermann, effective immediately. In addition to his role as Executive Vice President and COO, Stokes had been serving as interim President and CEO following the departure of Benjamin K. Chu, M.D., who left the organization in June to pursue his passion in public and health policy.

Stokes, who began his career as a registered nurse, is a well-respected industry veteran with nearly four decades of leadership experience and demonstrated success in fostering a culture of innovation and exceptional patient care experiences, with an emphasis on superior quality, safety and stellar operations.

“Chuck has proven himself to be an outstanding leader during the course of his remarkable career with our organization, working tirelessly to guide Memorial Hermann on its journey toward becoming a high-reliability organization with a strong focus on innovation and transformation,” said Memorial Hermann Board Chair Deborah M. Cannon. “He has an unwavering commitment to our patients, medical staff and to Memorial Hermann, the latter of which has been instrumental in helping us transform our operational structure in order to meet the challenges and demands of a rapidly changing healthcare landscape.”

As COO, Stokes was responsible for overseeing operations for the System, which has 17 hospitals, more than 200 outpatient clinics, 25,000 employees and 5,500 affiliated physicians. He has a proven track record of achieving success in service line leadership, employee engagement, physician collaboration, and leadership development.

“I am honored and humbled to work alongside our exceptional employees and talented medical staff as we fulfill our mission to advance the health of all Houstonians,” Stokes said. “In its 110 years of faithfully serving this community, Memorial Hermann has grown to become a nationally recognized organization with an unrelenting focus on providing enhanced access to the safest, highest-quality care, all at an affordable cost.”

Most recently, Stokes’ leadership was instrumental in helping Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Hospital become the first organization

and hospital in the Houston area to receive the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, the nation’s highest presidential honor for performance excellence. During his tenure, Memorial Hermann also has been perennially recognized as the country’s most successful Accountable Care Organization, underscoring the emphasis on innovative, evidence-based medicine designed to improve overall population health.

Stokes was recently named among the Top 25 COOs in healthcare by Modern Healthcare, a list that recognizes high-achieving leaders across the industry and the increasingly demanding roles they play. He also serves as the Chairman of the Board of Governors for the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE), an organization of more than 48,000 healthcare executives working together to improve care delivery and the education of healthcare leaders. Prior to his appointment as Chairman, Stokes served as ACHE faculty for 10 years.

“At a time when our industry is facing unprecedented challenges with declining reimbursements and escalating costs, I have every confidence that Chuck has the experience and visionary leadership necessary to navigate our organization through this period of change and uncertainty,” Cannon said.

Prior to joining Memorial Hermann as COO in 2008, Stokes served as President of North Mississippi Medical Center, a 650-bed tertiary hospital and a 2006 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award recipient. He previously served as COO for three other health systems and as Vice President of Operations for St. Luke’s Episcopal Hospital/Texas Heart Institute in Houston.

In addition to his professional commitments, he serves on the Holocaust Museum Houston Advisory Board and on the Board of the Children’s Defense Fund-Texas. He also serves as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) and has penned numerous articles on leadership development.

Stokes, who is board certified in Healthcare Management as an ACHE fellow, earned his Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Miss., and a master’s degree in hospital and health administration from UAB. He is married to Judy Liswood Stokes and has three adult children.

An advertisement for Peel Inc. It features a large, blue, circular logo with a white stylized letter 'P' on the left. To the right of the logo is a red rectangular box with white text that reads: "ADVERTISE Your Business Here Call 512.263.9181 for details". Below the red box, the website "www.peelinc.com" is written in blue. The background of the ad has a light blue and white pattern with some pink dots.



# FIRECRACKER RUBBED PORK LOIN

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 tbsp. fresh sage leaves, finely chopped
- 2 tsp. garlic powder
- 2 tsp. onion powder
- 2 tsp. salt
- 2 tsp. ground black pepper
- 2 tsp. dry mustard
- 2 tsp. paprika
- 1/2 tsp. ground red pepper
- 1 (4 to 5 lb) boneless pork loin, not rolled or tied

### DIRECTIONS

1. Mix herbs and spices in small bowl; rub over all surfaces of pork. Wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate overnight (can be stored up to 2 days).
2. Prepare grill with a banked medium-hot fire. Unwrap pork and place over indirect heat. Grill for 1 to 1-1/2 hours or until thermometer registers 150F to 155F. Remove from grill; let rest 10 minutes before slicing.

Serves 8 to 12



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# RANCH REVIEW

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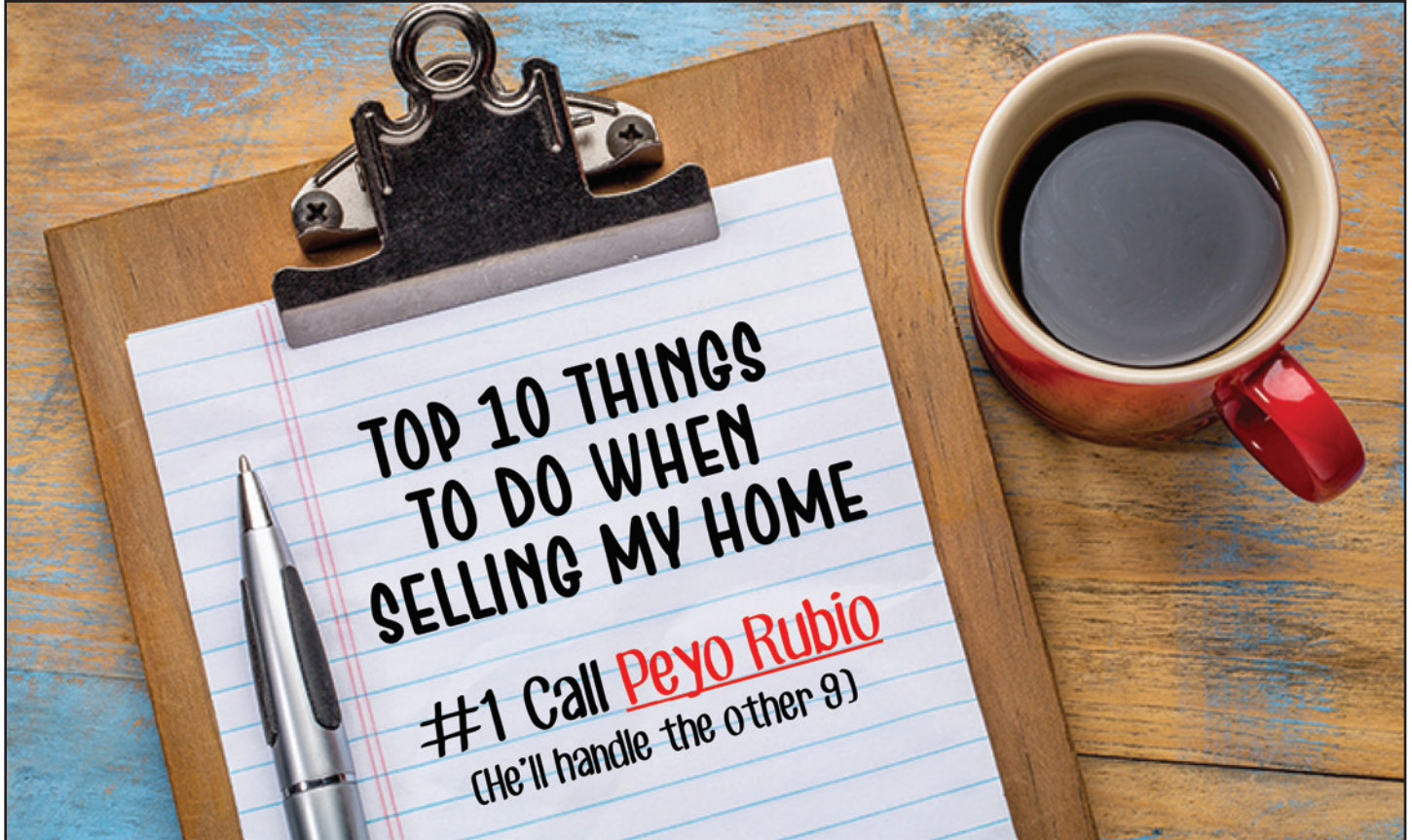


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