

THE *Current* Shadow Creek Ranch

NOVEMBER 2017
VOLUME 9, ISSUE 11



SHADOW CREEK SPORTS



BASKETBALL SIGNUP

Registration open for winter league. Grades 2-7 boys and girls. All games indoors and in Shadow Creek.

First Game = January 21.

Late fee starts November 15.

Beginner & Advanced leagues

Registration includes a full uniform, referees, and trophy. Practice times decided by team parents. Teams coached by team parents.

Register at ShadowCreekSports.org

SOCCER SPRING SIGN UP

Ages 4-9 – Saturday games 8-12 noon

Ages 10-14 Sunday games 2-6 pm

Girls only league Ages 6-13

First Game = Late March. Registration includes a full uniform, practice equipment. Trophy for ages 4-9. Practice times decided by team parents. Teams coached by team parents. Late fee starts January 23.

Register at ShadowCreekSports.org



BASEBALL SPRING SIGNUP

Registration open. Fall grades K-6 boys and girls.

First Game = Late march

Registration includes a full uniform, practice equipment, and trophy. Practice times decided by team parents.

Teams coached by team parents.

Register at ShadowCreekSports.org



SHADOW CREEK RANCH

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	911
Fire.....	911
Ambulance	911
Sheriff – Non-Emergency	281-331-9000
Pearland Police Department	281-997-4100

SCHOOLS

Mary Marek Elementary	281-245-3232
Laura Ingalls Wilder Elementary	281-245-3090
Manvel Junior High	281-331-1416
Alvin Senior High	281-331-8151
Manvel High School	281-245-2235
Alvin ISD Administration	281-338-1130
Alvin ISD Transportation	281-331-0960

UTILITIES

Electricity - Reliant Energy.....	713-207-7777
Gas - Center Point	713-659-2111
Trash Removal - City of Pearland	281-652-1600

CITY

Pearland City Hall.....	281-652-1600
Pearland Utility Billing - Water Dept.	281-652-1603
Pearland Animal Control.....	281-652-1970
Pearland Police Dept - Non-Emergency	281-652-1100
Pearland Public Works.....	281-652-1900

OTHER NUMBERS

Pearland Post Office	281-485-2132
Poison Control.....	800-764-7661
Brazoria County Health Department	979-864-1484
Animal Control.....	281-756-2265
Cable/Internet/Phone...COMCAST	713-341-1000

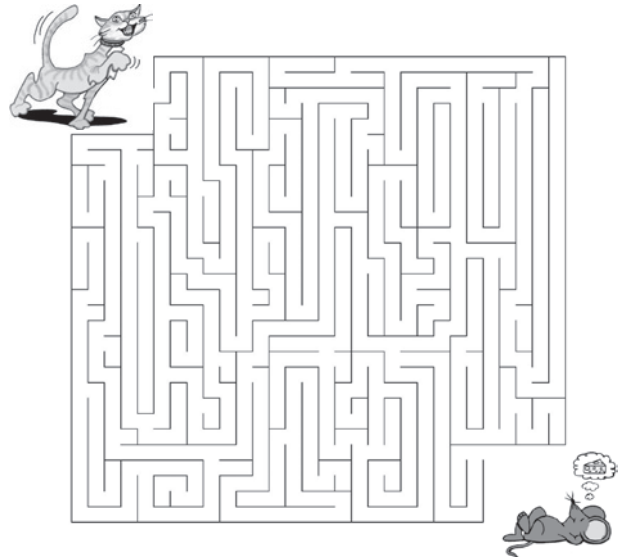
NEWSLETTER

Articles	shadowcreekbranch@peelinc.com
Publisher	
Peel, Inc.	1-888-687-6444
Advertising.....	1-888-687-6444

**NOT AVAILABLE
ONLINE**

Kidz Maze Mania

The cat is looking for his old friend, Harry the mouse. Help the cat get through the maze to find Harry as he sleeps.



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SHADOW CREEK RANCH

Providing Habitat for the Monarch Butterfly

-LaJuan Tucker and Johanna Arendt

Over the past few years, Texas has boasted some of the highest growth rates in the country. We have seen increased development, urbanization, and economic growth. Natural landscapes are quickly being converted to roadways, housing, and retail.

These dramatic shifts in the landscape are having a significant impact on wildlife. Water sources are being paved over or polluted with runoff. Agricultural lands and native grasslands that provide nesting and foraging sites for birds are increasingly replaced with houses and gas stations. Wildlife now must cross roadways and travel longer distances to find food, shelter, and mates.

There are, however, many ways that residents can help wildlife. Balconies, parks, greenbelts, school yards, and backyards are just a few of the places that can provide important resources for wildlife. As the Texas' population continues to grow, so can our responsibility to make sure urban and suburban areas serve not only as economic growth centers, but also as havens for wildlife such as the monarch butterfly.

The iconic monarch butterfly is most famous for its long migrations and its beautiful orange and black markings. Unfortunately, research shows that overall monarch numbers are on the decline. Here in Texas, we encounter the monarch butterfly during both its northern

and southern migrations, which puts us in a unique position to assist with conservation efforts.



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SHADOW CREEK RANCH

THE HISTORY OF THANKSGIVING AND ITS CELEBRATIONS

Throughout history mankind has celebrated the bountiful harvest with thanksgiving ceremonies. Before the establishment of formal religions, many ancient farmers believed that their crops contained spirits which caused the crops to grow and die. Many believed that these spirits would be released when the crops were harvested and they had to be destroyed or they would take revenge on the farmers who harvested them. Some of the harvest festivals celebrated the defeat of these spirits. Harvest festivals and thanksgiving celebrations were held by the ancient Greeks, the Romans, the Chinese, and the Egyptians, to name a few.

The Greeks

The ancient Greeks worshipped many gods and goddesses. Their goddess of corn (actually all grains) was Demeter who was honored at the festival of Thesmophoria held each autumn. On the first day of the festival, married women (possibility connecting childbearing and the raising of crops) would build leafy shelters and furnish them with couches made with plants. On the second day they fasted. On the third day a feast was held and offerings to the goddess Demeter were made - gifts of seed corn, cakes, fruit, and pigs. It was hoped that Demeter's gratitude would grant them a good harvest.

The Romans

The Romans also celebrated a harvest festival called Cerelia, which honored Ceres their goddess of corn (from which the word cereal comes). The festival was held each year on October 4th and offerings of the first fruits of the harvest and pigs were offered to Ceres. Their celebration included music, parades, games and sports and a thanksgiving feast.

The Chinese

The ancient Chinese celebrated their harvest festival, Chung Ch'ui, with the full moon that fell on the 15th day of the 8th month. This day was considered the birthday of the moon and special "moon cakes", round and yellow like the moon, would be baked. Each cake was stamped with the picture of a rabbit - as it was a rabbit, not a man, which the Chinese saw on the face of the moon. The families ate a thanksgiving meal and feasted on roasted pig, harvested fruits and the "moon cakes". It was believed that during the 3-day festival, flowers would fall from the moon and those who saw them would be rewarded with good fortune. According to legend, Chung Ch'ui also gave thanks for another special occasion. China had been conquered by enemy armies who

(Continued on Page 5)

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SHADOW CREEK RANCH

(Continued from Page 4)

took control of the Chinese homes and food. The Chinese found themselves homeless and with no food. Many starved. In order to free themselves, they decided to attack the invaders. The women baked special moon cakes which were distributed to every family. In each cake was a secret message which contained the time for the attack. When the time came, the invaders were surprised and easily defeated. Every year moon cakes are eaten in memory of this victory.

The Egyptians

The ancient Egyptians celebrated their harvest festival in honor of Min, their god of vegetation and fertility. The festival was held in the springtime, the Egyptian's harvest season. The festival of Min featured a parade in which the Pharaoh took part. After the parade a great feast was held. Music, dancing, and sports were also part of the celebration. When the Egyptian farmers harvested their corn, they wept and pretended to be grief stricken. This was to deceive the spirit which they believed lived in the corn. They feared the spirit would become angry when the farmers cut down the corn where it lived.

The United States

In 1621, after a hard and devastating first year in the New World, the Pilgrim's fall harvest was very successful and plentiful.

There was corn, fruits, vegetables, along with fish which was packed in salt, and meat that was smoke cured over fires. They found they had enough food to put away for the winter. The Pilgrims had beaten the odds. They built homes in the wilderness, they raised enough crops to keep them alive during the long coming winter, and they were at peace with their Indian neighbors. Their Governor, William Bradford, proclaimed a day of thanksgiving that was to be shared by all the colonists and the neighboring Native American Indians. The custom of an annually celebrated thanksgiving, held after the harvest, continued through the years. During the American Revolution (late 1770's) a day of national thanksgiving was suggested by the Continental Congress. In 1817, New York State adopted Thanksgiving Day as an annual custom. By the middle of the 19th century many other states also celebrated a Thanksgiving Day. In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln appointed a national day of thanksgiving. Since then each president has issued a Thanksgiving Day proclamation, usually designating the fourth Thursday of each November as the holiday.

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SHADOW CREEK RANCH

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View answers online at www.peelinc.com

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The goal is to fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Each digit may appear only once in each row, each column, and each 3x3 box.

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Be sure to include the following so we
can let you know!

Name: _____

(first name, last initial)

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