December 2017 Volume 17, Issue 12

# Is it a cold, or the flu

#### Physicians offer tips to tell the difference

It may be the most asked healthcare question of the winter season: is it a cold, or the flu? Physicians affiliated with Memorial Hermann Cypress Hospital know that it can be a tough one to answer on your own.

"While the cold and flu can have similar symptoms, the treatments are very different," says Lillian Howard, M.D., a family medicine physician with Memorial Hermann Medical Group at Cypress.

The National Institute of Health says the flu will usually cause fever and chills, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, headaches and/or body aches, and fatigue. A cold has much milder symptoms like runny or stuffy noses and scratchy throats.

"Your best shot at protecting yourself against the flu is to get the flu vaccination," says Dr. Howard. "If you haven't gotten the vaccine, and you start feeling flu-like symptoms, schedule a visit with your primary care physician. If you do have the flu, there are medications that can be prescribed to help shorten the duration and severity of the flu."

The flu can lead to more serious complications, including pneumonia, dehydration, and even death.

"Those older than 65 years old, young children and pregnant women are at higher risk for experiencing complications from the flu. If you experience high fever, a cough, or shortness of breath or chest pains, you need to see a doctor immediately," recommends Dr. Howard.

Memorial Hermann Medical Group Cypress is open Monday-Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The clinic is conveniently located on FM 1960 at Wortham Boulevard, just north of Highway 290 and across from the Commons at Crossroads. Call 281.890.6446 to schedule an appointment.



# Save the Date: Just in from the North Pole

Santa will be visiting the Cypress Mill Community on Saturday, December 9th. Remember...he knows when you've been good or bad so be good for goodness sake!

Cypress Mill Community Residents are invited attend the Annual HOA Community Holiday Party. The event will be held on Saturday, December 9th from 9:00 am - Noon at the Community Recreation Center.

The Holiday Party begins at 9:00 am with Suzzala the Head Elf! Children can select a festive face painting design, decorate an ornament, and be entertained by a balloon artist. The Cy-Fair Fire Department will also be on site offering Fire Truck Tours!

Santa arrives at 9:00 am - remember to bring your camera to capture your family holiday photo!

Please remember, children must have a parent or guardian accompanying them. The holiday festivities will end at noon.

\*If you would like to volunteer or participate in the event, please contact Jacqui Williams (Holiday Party Coordinator) at 832-692-2203.

## **Important Numbers**

Robison Elementary281-213-1700
Spillane Middle School
Cy-Fair High School
Cy-Woods High School281-213-1919
Constable Ron Hickman, (24 Hour Emergency) 281-376-3472
Centerpoint Energy Gas713-659-2111
Centerpoint Emergency Gas Leaks
CenterPoint Energy713-207-2222
Poison Control Center
Cypress Mill M.U.D. #1
AT&T Repair Center
Street Light Outages713-207-2222
Comcast Cable713-341-1000
Waste Corporation of America Recycling 281-368-8397
Principal Management
Pipeline Company
Street Lights – Center Point Energy713-207-2222
Damaged or Burned Out Street Lights **They will need 6-digit pole number when calling**
Harris County Road and Bridge281-463-6300
To request street signs and to report street damage, curb damage,

street flooding, or missing/damaged street signs.

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#### **Newsletter Deadline**

The deadline for the newsletters is the 9th of each month. Please email articles to: cypressmill@peelinc.com

## **Advertising Information**

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# **HEADIN' SOUTH**

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center

I was sitting on my back porch last night and heard the familiar "honking" sound I hear every fall—geese flying overhead. I looked up to see an almost perfect V. It instantly filled my mind with several questions. How do they know where they're going? Why do they fly in a V shape? How far do they fly? Do they stop and rest? I decided to do some research and get some answers and I am sharing them with you. After reading about them, I have a whole new respect for them.

#### WHY DO BIRDS MIGRATE?

They migrate in search of food and warmer temperatures. Because of climate change and changes in farm practices that makes waste grain more available, the geese aren't migrating as far south as they used to. Some Canada geese don't migrate at all anymore. Lack of natural predators is another reason geese may not migrate.

#### HOW DO GEESE KNOW WHERE THEY'RE GOING?

One tool they use is the earth's magnetic field. There are small pieces of what's called magnetite found in some birds' brains. It acts like a compass. They also use the position of the sun and the stars.

(Continued on Page 3)



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# CYPRESS MILL

(Continued from Page 2)

Birds follow the same migration path every year and use landmarks like rivers, mountains, and valleys as their roadmap.

#### WHERE DO THEY GO?

They follow the same path every year. There are four routes which are the Atlantic flyway (along the east coast of North America), the Mississippi flyway (named after the river), the Central flyway (along the Rocky Mountains) and the Pacific flyway (west of the Rockies).

Canada geese spend winters in southern Florida and southern North America including the southern United States and part of Mexico.

#### WHY DO GEESE FLY IN A "V"?

This formation is sometimes call a skein and helps them conserve energy. Each bird flies a little higher than the bird in front of him/her. This reduces the wind resistance. As an example, in a V formation of 25 geese, each bird experiences a reduction in what's called induced drag. This results in an increase of their range by 71%. Geese rotate taking the lead position since being in front takes the most energy.

# HOW FAST CAN GEESE FLY AND HOW LONG DO THEY FLY BEFORE RESTING?

Most articles I read put their cruising speed at between 20 and 30 miles per hour. For long distance flying their estimated

speed is 40 miles per hour.

#### DO MIGRATING BIRDS STOP TO REST

Birds need to take a "pit stop" occasionally to rest and refuel. They stop where there is ample food and water, shelter and with few competitors. They normally will spend a couple of days on the ground before continuing their journey.

The animal kingdom is amazing and the volunteers and staff at TWRC Wildlife Center get to experience the wonders everyday. If you'd like to be a part of this amazing world, volunteer! For more information, visit www.twrcwildlifecenter.org Be sure to follow us on Facebook for amazing stories and photos.





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# EARLY REGISTRATION OPEN FOR SPRING-KLEIN ATHLETICS YOUTH TRACK & FIELD

SPRING – (Nov 04, 2017) – Registration is now open for the spring and summer youth outdoor track and field seasons! Spring-Klein Athletics Foundation, Inc (SKAF) offers two competitive options for the outdoor season—Full Outdoor Track & Field and Summer Track & Field.

The full Outdoor Track and Field Season is for boys and girls in K – 6th grade as well as Home School Athletes who desire to compete in track and field. It provides a solid base for beginners and is designed to provide basic training in track and field and quality instruction in running mechanics.

The summer Outdoor Track season is ideal for middle and high school athletes who desire to continue their track & field season after school track is over and younger athletes looking to cross-train or stay active and engaged in positive activities during the summer.

Teams are coached by volunteer coaches. For full details and registration information, please visit us online www. SpringKleinAthletics.org. If you have questions email at teamska@skathletics.com org call (832) 415-0568.

About the Spring-Klein Athletics Track & Field

Spring-Klein Athletics Track & Field is a non-profit organization managed by the Spring-Klein Athletics Foundation, Inc and is sanctioned by the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation (T.A.A.F.) and Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) youth track programs for boys and girls from ages 6 to 18 years old. Our track team is focused on quality and precision instruction in a fun learning environment, while providing a platform for kids to reach their dreams. Questions? Contact the Spring-Klein Athletics Track & Field at (832) 415-0568 or email: teamska@skathletics.com.on the web at http://www.springkleinathletics.org.

# Finding Hope

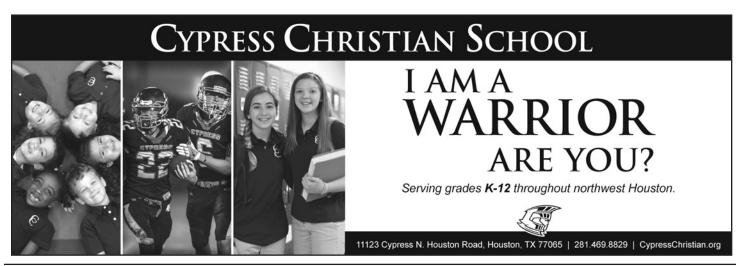
Sometimes I just feel broken. Broken as in not whole, shattered & not even sure how to begin putting the pieces back together. Are all of the pieces even still there?

I'm not going to lie. Living and dealing with emotional trauma is no cup of tea. You feel lost, beaten, broken, and very much alone. You frequently feel things will never get better. After all, how can they ever be as good as they were (or, at least, as good as you thought they were) when you're this broken shell of a person. Then, you watch and see the rest of the world passing, and think, "Why even try? It's hopeless."

With the passing of spring, I've been thinking about the significance of this particular season at this junction of my life. Spring is the season of rebirth and renewal; the time of fresh starts. So, as I sit & watch the renewal of everything around me, I wonder... What about me? Can I be renewed? Is there enough left of this broken person to put back together, fill the holes, and turn out a new person fresh and whole?

I've found that spending time with friends, both the human and equine variety, is a great healer. They have become my glue that pulls the shattered pieces back together. While spending quiet moments relaxing with my horse I hear God more clearly, telling me that I have purpose in this life. What came before was meant to happen, if only to prepare me for what is to come and to help me become the person He means me to be. Learning God's plans for me not only helps reassemble the scattered pieces, but leads me to discover new pieces, more vibrant than the old ever were. Suddenly, I find myself renewed and, just like that, there it is--- **Hope Resurrected** 

\*\*If you find these things to be true in your own life, and would like to make a change, please visit our website at www.fivehorses.com to learn more about our newest workshop, **Finding Courage**, coming this November\*\*





# Cypress Texas Tea Party

The next meetings of the Cypress Texas Tea Party will be on:

#### Saturday, December 2, 2017 NOON - 2:00 PM

- David Balat, Candidate for US Representative, District 7
  - Judge Rory Olsen, Harris County Probate Court #3
- Judge Christine Riddle Butts, Harris County Probate Court #4
  - Melanie Flowers, Candidate for 257th District Court
  - Xavier Alfaro, Candidate for Criminal Court at Law #5
  - Mike Schofield, Texas State Representative, District 132
  - Justin Kieter, Candidate for 263rd District Court
  - Judge Jeff Williams, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 5, Place 2

#### Saturday, January 13, 2018 NOON - 2:00 PM

- Ray Black Jr., Candidate for County Probate Court #2 - Judge Paula Goodhart, Criminal Court at Law #1

The Cypress Texas Tea Party meets every three weeks on Saturday

Noon until 2:00 PM at: Spring Creek BBQ 25831 Northwest Freeway Cypress, Texas 77429 Map: http://goo.gl/maps/OoNjY

A schedule of our meetings and confirmed speakers can be found at our website, www.cypresstexasteaparty.org

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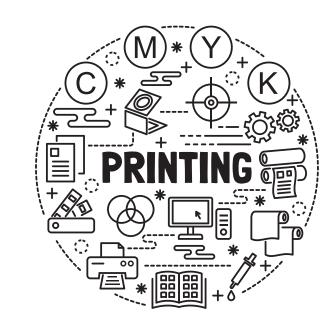
# CYPRESS MILL

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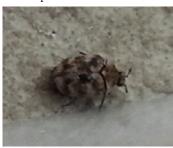
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#### TEXAS A&M GRILIFE EXTENSION

# **Carpet Beetles**

Carpet beetles adults can be found outdoors on crape myrtles or other plants where the adults eat pollen and nectar. The adults may also be found in rodent or bird nests. When these adults move into homes, they may lay eggs which can lead to problems. These beetles can be pests in warehouses, homes, museums and other locations.



Carpet beetle adults are small, round to oval shaped and often brightly colored. Larvae are small, tan, and ringed with bands of long hairs.

Carpet beetle larvae feed on high protein foods, usually animal based, but they can also feed on plant material. They can be found in a variety of locations throughout the

home. In the pantry, you may find them in items such as powdered milk, dried meats (jerky), or pet food. Other areas of the home they can be attracted to items made from wool, fur or feathers, areas where dead insects accumulate (i.e. light fixtures), leather book bindings, hair, silk or dried plant products. If the larvae are seen feeding on synthetic fibers, it is because the material is stained with body oils or food.

A program utilizing sanitation, exclusion and insecticides should be able to get a carpet beetle problem under control.

- Clean accumulations of hair, dead insects, and bird, rodent or wasp nests
- Regularly clean rugs, carpets, upholstery, etc.
  o make sure to get along edges, under cushions, and under furniture where debris may collect
- Inspect animal based items (taxidermied animals, leather, wool, silk, etc.) once a year to avoid infestations
- Keep pantry items/ dry goods in sealed, air-tight containers
- Infested items (if possible, depending on the items) can be heated or cooled to kill any beetles
  - o freeze 2 weeks at temperatures below 18°F
  - o heat for at least 30 minutes to temperatures above 120°F
- Insecticides should be used as spot treatments- make sure carpet beetles are listed on the label as well as the area/ item you are treating o make sure the product will not stain

If you find a few adult carpet beetles in your home, squish them on vacuum them up. A few adults usually do not warrant a full treatment, but you should watch for a developing infestation.

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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# **Share Your America**

What if you didn't have chocolate chip cookies, Dr. Pepper, corndogs or \*gasp\* Tex-Mex food or Whataburger? These are just some of the things that we take for granted every day. Imagine having a whole year to experience new foods, a new culture, a whole new life! That's what hosting an exchange student is all about!

STS Foundation is currently looking for families for the 2018/2019 school year. What does it take to be a host family? STS accepts all types of families, be it single parents, young marrieds, empty nesters or same sex couples – we are looking for families that are willing to Share their America with a high school student for the year. All you need to provide is three meals a day and a room for them to sleep in. The student can share a room with a same sex sibling that is within five years of their age. Each student comes with their own spending money and health insurance. Most of all, they come with an excitement to learn all they can about our American way of life.

Hosting is a great way to learn about the student's culture as well, perhaps even learn a few new words in a new language. It's a way of opening a new world to your children as well. Most importantly, it's a way of making the world just a little bit smaller, so that we can all live in peace and harmony together.

Contact Vicki Odom at 832-455-7881 or via email at vicki. stsfoundation@gmail.com if you'd like more information on hosting a foreign exchange sudent.

STS Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization who mission is to facilitate educational opportunities where all participants can break down cultural barriers, and gain respect and understanding of each other's way of life.



Please remember to pick up after your pets and "scoop the poop"



