



CYPRESS MILL *Chronicle*

NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF CYPRESS MILL

February 2018

Volume 18, Issue 2

IS IT A TURTLE OR A TORTOISE?

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center

Some lump anything with an outside shell into the turtle category when in fact there are distinct differences between turtles and tortoises. Both are reptiles but turtles live in the water and the tortoise is a land-dweller.

Turtles are identifiable by their webbed feet and long claws. The webbing helps them swim. The tortoise has a heavier shell than the turtle and has short sturdy legs. Turtles are omnivores meaning they eat vegetation and meat. Tortoises tend to be herbivores but have been known to occasionally eat meat.

Both turtles and tortoises date back 220 million years! They both have a very long lifespan with sea turtles living up to 70 years and the more common turtles living up to 40 years. Tortoises can live up to 150 years!

Red-eared slider turtles became popular as pets when they were made available in dime stores. I know I had one in the 1950's so they've been around a very long time! Their popularity soared when the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle movie came out. Because the turtles were released into the wild when pet owners got tired of them, they are now considered invasive in some states. A couple of states have outlawed the sale of them. These turtles tend to be a bit aggressive and make it difficult for other native species to compete for food and habitats. They can also introduce unknown diseases to the wild population when pet turtles are released into the wild.

Probably the most unique turtle in our area is the softshell turtle. They live in the water and are carnivores. It has a flat shell and will often bury itself at the bottom of a lake, stream, or bayou leaving only its neck and head exposed. It can breathe underwater much like a fish.

TWRC Wildlife Center cares for hundreds of turtles every year. Most are admitted because of injuries sustained from cars. In 2014, concerned citizens asked Missouri City to help protect turtles crossing the road. The City took a positive step by erecting road signs showing a mama turtle with three babies.

TWRC Wildlife Center is a 38-year-old non-profit organization that is your resource for wildlife questions and concerns. Check out our website at www.twrcwildlifecenter.org or give us a call at 713-468-TWRC.



The photo is of a soft shell turtle admitted to TWRC for care.

CYPRESS MILL

Important Numbers

Robison Elementary	281-213-1700
Spillane Middle School.....	281-213-1645
Cy-Fair High School	281-897-4600
Cy-Woods High School.....	281-213-1919
Constable Ron Hickman, (24 Hour Emergency)	281-376-3472
Centerpoint Energy Gas.....	713-659-2111
Centerpoint Emergency Gas Leaks.....	713-659-3552
CenterPoint Energy.....	713-207-2222
Poison Control Center	800-764-7661
Cypress Mill M.U.D. #1	281-374-8989
AT&T Repair Center	800-246-8464
Street Light Outages.....	713-207-2222
Comcast Cable.....	713-341-1000
Waste Corporation of America Recycling	281-368-8397
Principal Management	713-329-7100
Pipeline Company	281-925-3816
<i>Mowing of Pipeline easement; Standing water; Smells or leaks</i>	

Street Lights – Center Point Energy.....713-207-2222

Damaged or Burned Out Street Lights

They will need 6-digit pole number when calling

Harris County Road and Bridge.....281-463-6300

To request street signs and to report street damage, curb damage, street flooding, or missing/damaged street signs.

Newsletter Publisher

Contributing Editor

Samantha Y. Obas

Articles..... cypressmill@peelinc.com
Peel, Inc. advertising@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444

Newsletter Deadline

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

Advertising Information

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Messenger. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Cypress Mill residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. No homeowners association funds are used to produce or mail the newsletters. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office at 888-687-6444, advertising@PEELinc.com



Recluse spiders

Recluse spiders are shy and, as their name suggests, do not like being out in the open. They are about the size of a quarter, with a body that is 1/2 inch long. They can be light brown, dark brown or greyish in color. They have no spines on their legs and usually have a uniform body color. Recluse spiders are known for their characteristic violin or fiddle-shaped marking on the "back" (a.k.a. cephalothorax...the front part of the spider). The real distinguishing feature is an eye pattern of three pairs of eyes arranged in a semicircle on the front of the cephalothorax.

Outside homes, recluse spiders can be found in garages or sheds, firewood piles, or piles of stored materials such as lumber, bricks, or rocks. Inside the home, these spiders are found in bedrooms, closets, bathrooms, under furniture, behind baseboards, in attics, or in cracks and crevices. They are most active at night when hunting for food.

People are typically bitten by accidentally rolling over onto a spider while sleeping or trapping a spider next to skin when putting on clothing where the spider is hiding. Recluse spiders have a cytotoxin that breaks down tissue in the bite area. Several hours after being bitten a blister forms at the bite site that may grow in size as tissue breaks down from injected venom. Infected tissue eventually sloughs off, leaving an open wound that takes a while to heal. More serious symptoms may also occur such as chills, fever, fatigue, joint pain, or nausea. If you experience problems after being bitten by a spider, then seek medical attention immediately.

To avoid spider bites, try some (or all) of the following:

- Use sticky taps to capture spiders
 - Remove bed skirts from beds (these make it easy for spiders to crawl into the bed)
 - Don't leave clothes or blankets on the floor; shake out blankets and clothing before using
 - When storing items, either use sealed plastic containers/bags or tape boxes on all seams to keep spiders out
 - Wear leather gloves when cleaning in undisturbed closets, attics, garages, or the yard
 - Keep stacked, stored items away from the home.
- Do not store firewood against the house and only bring in firewood to immediately place on a fire.

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

The information given herein is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service or the Texas A&M AgriLife Research is implied.

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service provides equal access in its programs, activities, education and employment, without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity.

Cypress Springs Vendors



Calling all vendors! The 2nd Annual Mother's Day Market & Car Show presented by Cypress Springs FFA Booster Club will be held on Saturday, April 21, 2018 between 9AM-5PM & Sunday, April 22, 2018 between 10AM-4PM.

Indoor booths are \$110.00 and outdoor booths are \$100.00. All proceeds will benefit the Cypress Springs FFA students in attending state convention, competitions and creating scholarships for graduating seniors. The event is held at the CFISD Exhibit Center at 11206 Telge Road, Cypress, TX 77429, ¼ mile north of Hwy 290.

For additional information, please visit www.cyspringsffa.org or contact Elizabeth Ordonez via email at cy_springsffa@yahoo.com.

BASHANS PAINTING & HOME REPAIR

- Interior & Exterior Painting
- HardiPlank Replacement
- Sheetrock Repair
- Cabinet Painting
- Pressure Washing
- Fence Repair/Replacement
- Custom Staining
- Gutter Repair & Replacement
- Crown Molding
- Wallpaper Removal
- Wood Replacement
- Interior Carpentry
- Wallpaper Removal & Texture
- Garage Floor Epoxy
- Roofing
- Faux Painting

NO MONEY UP FRONT

20 Years Experience • References Available

Commercial/Residential

~ FREE ESTIMATES ~

BashansPainting@earthlink.net

◆ FULLY INSURED

281-347-6702

281-731-3383 cell



HARDIPLANK®



CLUB TRACK TEAM REGISTRATION FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

Now in its 31st year, the Northwest Flyers Track Club is accepting registrations for all middle and high school athletes for the spring and summer 2018 season. The team is sanctioned by USA Track & Field, and offers a full program of "track" events such as sprints, hurdles, middle distance, distance and relays, and "field" events such as long jump, triple jump, high jump, discus, shot put and javelin and pole vault. It is an excellent "off-season" program for young athletes who currently compete on their middle school or high school track teams.

The team was founded 31 years ago by local Olympic gold medalist Fred Newhouse to foster the development of youth track & field in the northwest Houston area. In July, 2017 the Northwest Flyer had one of its most successful competitions ever at the Junior Olympics in Lawrence, KS.

In order to register, athletes must first attend one of the orientation sessions in late March/early April, 2018, which are listed on the team website at www.northwestflyers.org. For additional information about the team, email linette.roach@sbglobal.net and "Like" the club on Facebook.





ADVERTISE

Your Business Here

Call 512.263.9181 for details

www.peelinc.com

CYPRESS MILL

Bring the World Home

Hosting an international exchange student is a great way of opening the world to your children and teaching them about new cultures.

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.

Here are just some of the many students that are available for placement:

Abby from Denmark – loves being active in sports, nature and at the beach. She is a competitive swimmer and enjoys horseback riding.

Dominik from Switzerland – an open minded, uncomplicated boy, with a real interest in American sports

Maria from Norway – she describes herself as an outgoing, adventurous, mature, compassionate person.

Saana from Finland – she is both sympathetic and empathetic. She enjoys music and sports, and according to her bio – she has a

great laugh!

If you are ready for this amazing experience, please give a Houston area STS Local Coordinator: Vicki Odom at 832-455-7881 or via email at vicki.stsfoundation@gmail.com.

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.

Free Community Event!

1st Annual Northwest Preschool Preview

Come learn more about NW area preschools. Representatives from multiple area preschools will be in attendance. This is a free interactive event, open to everyone!

Date: Sunday, April 8, 2018

Location: Cypress Christian School

11123 Cypress N Houston Rd

Houston, TX 77065

Time: 1 – 3 p.m.

PATIO COVERS | PERGOLAS | CARPORTS | PORTE COCHÈRES
OUTDOOR KITCHENS | DECORATIVE OUTDOOR FLOORING



RAIN PROOF DESIGN

CUSTOM PATIO STRUCTURES

Committed to Quality, Value & Service



832.570.3990 www.custompatiostructures.com



FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED WITH OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE
FREE ESTIMATES & DESIGN CONSULTATION • 100% FINANCING AVAILABLE



FAIRFIELD ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Mike Hicks, DVM

Sandra Harris, DVM

P.J. Wonder Koehne, DVM

15040 Fairfield Vlg. Sq. Dr. #100

Cypress Tx 77433 • 281.256.3150

www.myfairfieldvet.com

Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs: 7am-7pm

Friday: 7a-6p

Saturday: 9a-3p

Closed Sunday

- Compassionate, Quality Care for your Pet Family Member

- A Full Service Veterinary Hospital

- Experienced, Caring, Professional Staff



HomeAgain
A lost pet's best chance

Cypress Texas Tea Party

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

Saturday, February 3, 2018 NOON - 2:00 PM

- Aaron Burdette, Candidate for Criminal Court at Law #11
 - Lori Borello, Candidate for County Criminal Court #11
 - Jessica Padilla, Candidate for Criminal Court at Law #13
 - Judge Alyssa Lemkuil, Candidate for 257th District Court
 - Judge Denise Collins, 208th District Court
 - Geric Tipsword, Candidate for 180th District Court
 - Judge Christine Riddle Butts, Harris County Probate Court #4
 - Judge Debra Ibarra Mayfield, 190th District Court
- Saturday, February 24, 2018 NOON - 2:00 PM
- Dan Crenshaw, Candidate for US Representative, Congressional District 2
 - Kathaleen Wall, Candidate for US Representative, Congressional District 2

- Gary Elkins, Texas State Representative, District 135
- Judge Angelina Gooden, 280th Family Protective Order Court
- George Clevenger, Candidate for 280th District Court
 - Judge Bill Harmon, Criminal Court at Law #2
- Judge Rory Olsen, Harris County Probate Court #3
- 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 the meetings and confirmed speakers can be found
on their website, www.cypressstexteaparty.org*

Cypress Area Food Pantry

Do you know of someone who has trouble putting food on the table? Maybe their employment was suddenly terminated; maybe it's a choice between medications or food; for whatever reason a family can find themselves in a situation where they need a little help.

Fountain of Life Church of God on Mueschke Road runs a food pantry on Mondays from 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm and the only requirement is that the client should live in zip code 77433 and west of Skinner 77429. For more information, contact 281-373-9337. Food donations and volunteers are also greatly appreciated.

Computerized job search and resume preparation and printing are also available.





PEEL, INC.
community newsletters

ADVERTISE
YOUR BUSINESS
TO YOUR
NEIGHBORS

support your community newsletter

Nichole Taylor
ntaylor@peelinc.com • 512-263-9181
Sales Representative

**NOT AVAILABLE
ONLINE**

DISCLAIMER: Articles and ads in this newsletter express the opinions of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Peel, Inc. or its employees. Peel, Inc. is not responsible for the accuracy of any facts stated in articles submitted by others. The publisher also assumes no responsibility for the advertising content with this publication. All warranties and representations made in the advertising content are solely that of the advertiser and any such claims regarding its content should be taken up with the advertiser.

* The publisher assumes no liability with regard to its advertisers for misprints or failure to place advertising in this publication except for the actual cost of such advertising.

* Although every effort is taken to avoid mistakes and/or misprints, the publisher assumes no responsibility for any errors of information or typographical mistakes, except as limited to the cost of advertising as stated above or in the case of misinformation, a printed retraction/correction.

* Under no circumstances shall the publisher be held liable for incidental or consequential damages, inconvenience, loss of business or services, or any other liabilities from failure to publish, or from failure to publish in a timely manner, except as limited to liabilities stated above.

The Cypress Mill Chronicle is a private publication published by Peel, Inc. It is not sanctioned by any homeowners association or organization, nor is it subject to the approval of any homeowners association or organization, nor is it intended, nor implied to replace any publication that may be published by or on behalf of any homeowners association or organization. At no time will any source be allowed to use The Cypress Mill Chronicle contents, or loan said contents, to others in anyway, shape or form, nor in any media, website, print, film, e-mail, electrostatic copy, fax, or etc. for the purpose of solicitation, commercial use, or any use for profit, political campaigns, or other self amplification, under penalty of law without written or expressed permission from Peel, Inc. The information in the newsletter is exclusively for the private use of Peel, Inc.

WIRED

ELECTRICAL SERVICES

SERVICING ALL YOUR ELECTRICAL NEEDS

- Panel Upgrades
- Home Inspections
- TV Install/Mounting
- Troubleshooting
- Remodeling
- Landscaping Lighting
- Home Generators

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL 24-7 SERVICE
LICENSED & INSURED

**Take \$25.00 Off Your
Next Service Call**



FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED

713.467.1125 or 281.897.0001

www.WiredES.com



TECL 22809 Master 100394



Full Service Print Shop Large Run - Short Run

BOOKLETS • BROCHURES • BUSINESS CARDS
EDDM POSTCARDS • NOTEPADS • FOLDERS
DOORHANGERS • HANG TAGS • LETTERHEAD
CALENDARS • POCKET POSTCARDS • POSTERS
RACK CARDS • TABLE TENTS • & MORE

512.263.9181
QualityPrintingOfAustin.com

**MENTION THIS AD AND RECEIVE 20% OFF
EXPIRES 2/28/2018**



ATTENTION KIDS: SEND US YOUR MASTERPIECE!

Color the drawing below and mail the finished artwork to us at:

Peel, Inc. - Kids Club

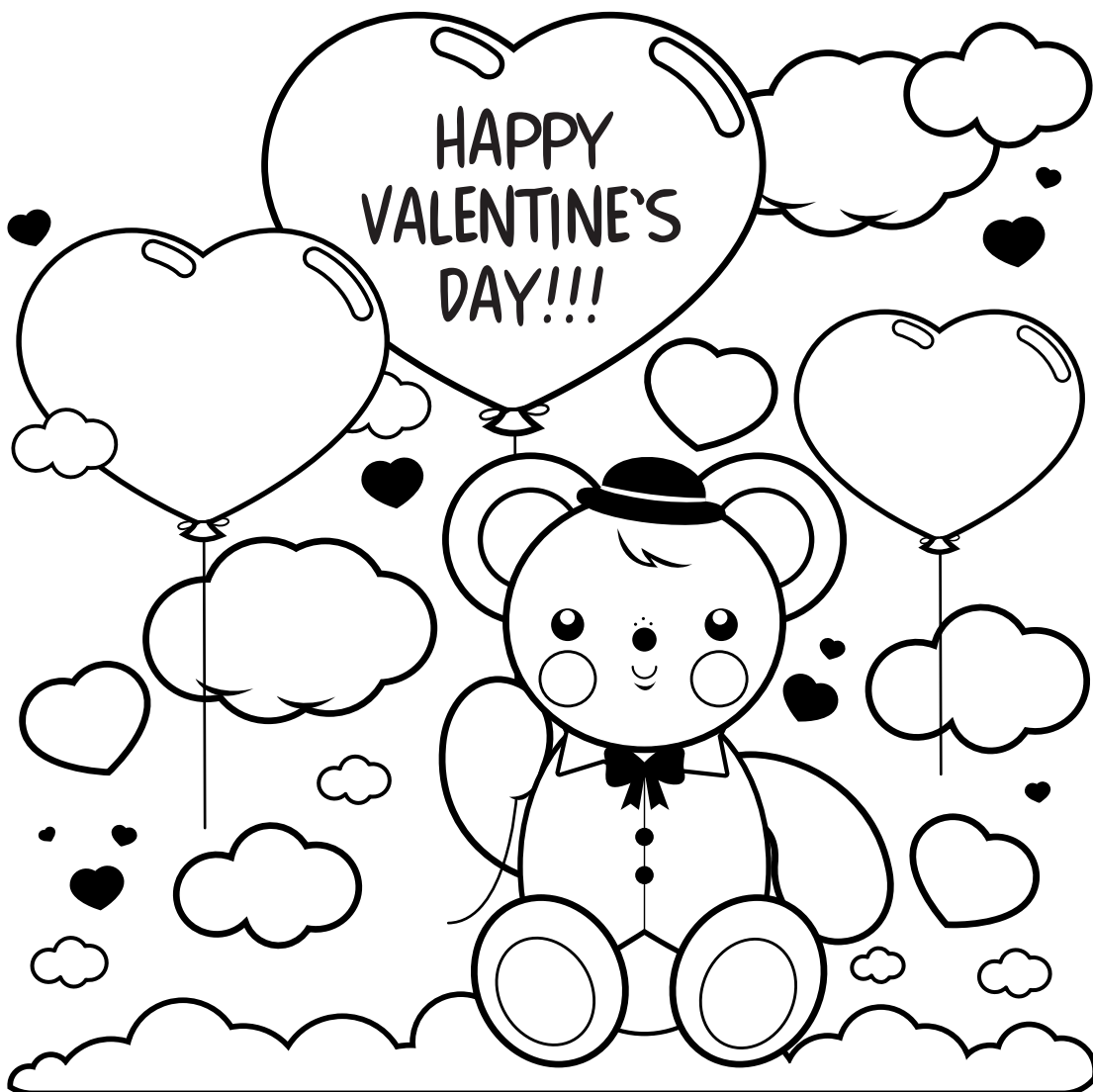
308 Meadowlark St. Lakeway, TX 78734-4717

We will select the top few and post their artwork on our Facebook Page - Facebook.com/PeelInc.

DUE: January 31st

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

Name (first name, last initial): _____ Age: _____



CM



PEEL, INC.

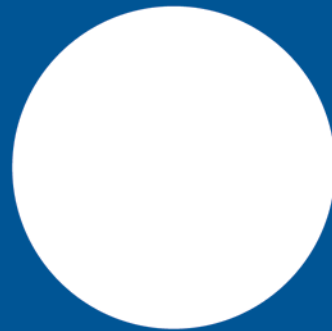
308 Meadowlark St. South
Lakeway, TX 78734

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PEEL, INC.

CM

LET US HELP YOU
GROW YOUR NEXT

**BIG
IDEA**



PEEL, INC.
printing & publishing

CONTACT US TODAY!

512.263.9181

OR VISIT

PEELINC.COM