



CYPRESS MILL *Chronicle*

NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF CYPRESS MILL

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KILL THE LIGHTS, SAVE THE BIRDS

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center



Who doesn't love seeing the Houston skyline at night, or any big city for that matter? The buildings are all lit up like Christmas trees but did you know that the lights can have a devastating effect on migrating birds? Digital billboards, floodlights and electric signs can have the same effect on them. About two-thirds of migratory birds travel at night and use the moon and stars to help guide them. The lights disorient them and can cause them to

fly in circles and to crash into windows. Over 100 MILLION birds die annually according to Massachusetts Audubon. The inappropriate or excessive use of artificial light has come to be called light pollution.

In May of 2017, nearly 400 birds were found dead outside the American National Insurance building in Galveston. Richard Gibbons with Houston Audubon believes the building's lights disoriented them.

For the last three years on September 21st in Portland, Oregon, more than a dozen buildings turned off their lights in observance of Lights Out Portland. The purpose of the event is to call attention to the impact that lights have on migrating birds. The Convention Center has gone a step further and has modified their lighting to be less attractive to birds year round.

Each year on September 11th, New York City remembers those lost with two powerful searchlights aimed towards the heavens near where the World Trade Center once stood. It is called the Tribute in Light. For the past ten years, researchers have tracked millions of migrating birds as they fly across the United States.

While analyzing the data, they were stunned to learn that the Tribute in Light attracted and altered the migratory behavior of bird densities up to 150 times their normal levels. It was estimated that this affected 1.1 million birds.

New York City Audubon decided to do something about it. They positioned volunteers called "tribute counters" with binoculars near the base of the tribute. If they reported densities of more than 1,000 birds or if a dead bird was found, the tribute lights were turned off for a short time. This happened for the first time in 2010 and the lights were turned off a total of 5 times during the night of September 11th/12th. Scientists were able to observe on radar the effects of turning off the lights. Once off, the birds resumed their migration heading southwest.

Drs. Farnsworth and Horton, scientists at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, have identified 5 major cities that pose the greatest risk to migrating birds—Chicago, Houston, Dallas, Atlanta and New York. They used historical records, radar and satellite data to monitor the intensity of light pollution. In addition, they have discovered that over half of the birds migrating across the United States in the fall do so within a 10-day period of time. Scientists from Cornell, the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and Oxford University are now able to forecast these migration days. These major cities could use this information to extinguish lights to give the birds safe passage. Wouldn't it be great if these cities would use this information and turn out the lights?

Across the country, there are many cities that are now observing "lights out days" during the fall. If your city isn't one of them, contact your city officials. They may not be aware of light pollution. If you're a homeowner, replace those bulbs that are on all night with motion-activated lights.

TWRC Wildlife Center is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to helping you live in harmony with the animals we share the world with. Please check out our website at www.twrcwildlifecenter.org and be sure to follow us on Facebook.

CYPRESS MILL

Important Numbers

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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
<i>Damaged or Burned Out Street Lights</i>	
<i>**They will need 6-digit pole number when calling**</i>	
Harris County Road and Bridge	281-463-6300
<i>To request street signs and to report street damage, curb damage, street flooding, or missing/damaged street signs.</i>	
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Please email articles to: cypressmill@peelinc.com

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Harvey Knocked Us Down But A Night in Bethlehem Is Back in 2018!

"A Night in Bethlehem"

**VISIT BETHLEHEM THIS SEASON ON
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1ST &
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2ND
5:00-8:00 PM.**

THIS IS A FREE EVENT FOR THE COMMUNITY!

Messiah's A Night in Bethlehem is an outdoor, interactive event where individuals and families are invited to stroll through Bethlehem at their own pace. Imagine what life was like during this miraculous time in history as you visit the Spice Merchant, the Produce Market, sample the wonderful treats at the Bakery and taste the savory soup at the Soldier's Tavern. Listen to the storyteller, and visit the shepherds, & the Inn. Listen for the Kings arrival at the stable with gifts for Jesus, as Mary & Joseph look on. Don't miss this living, interactive recreation of the original Christmas story. Join us for free activities for the family including candle making, creating a clay pinch pot, sewing a coin bag or playing Bethlehem dress-up. Pet the live animals and enjoy cookies, hot cider and coffee.

Messiah A Lutheran Faith Community is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Messiah is located at 11522 Telge Road, ½ mile north of Highway 290. Regular Sunday worship times are: 8 am—Traditions; 9:30 am—The Gathering; and 10:45 am—The Crossing. The Discovery (education) Hour is 9:15-10:15 AM on Sundays. For more information, 281-890-3013 or www.messiahlc.org. All people are welcome at Messiah.



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Want to Play Soccer?

AHFC (Albion Hurricanes FC) has multiple campuses in and around Houston. The club invites all interested players from the ages of 7 to 18 to Evaluations December 3 - 6, 2018 and become part of our success. Visit albionhurricanes.org for details about your particular campus (Southwest, Katy, Central Cy Fair).

AHFC offers JHSL (a recreational program for 5 - 10 year olds) at our Cy Fair and Central locations along side our Competitive programs. Additional training is also offered at Katy Friday Night Academy and New Territory Thursday Night Academy. All information regarding all of the programs can be found at albionhurricanes.org.

AHFC Royals USL2 & WPSL Tryouts!!

AHFC Royals is back the summer 2019 (May - August). The Royals USL2 (formerly PDL) and WPSL are a pathway for players desiring to play at a higher level. It is a proven pathway to the pros! Don't miss out. Join our team this coming season.

Tryouts will be held December 15, 2018 from 10:00am to 12:00pm at CRSP (3601 Campbell RD, Houston TX 77080). Registration is required prior to tryouts. Fee for the December tryouts will be \$50 while the March tryout fee will be \$75. Register at www.ahfcroyals.com. #LIVetheDREAM #BEROYAL

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Hockley Community Center Presents Fall Special Events

In addition to regularly scheduled activities – knitting, crocheting, quilting, oil painting, yoga, stretching, exercise classes, cards and dominoes – Harris County Precinct Three Commissioner Steve Radack's Hockley Community Center is offering the following events and activities:

Free New Yoga Class-Karen Nurem is now teaching P.M. Yoga on Tuesday evenings from 5 p.m. until 6 p.m. Her class is a combination of various types of yoga and incorporates strengthening, stretching, balancing and relaxation. Ages 12 years and up and all levels, beginner, intermediate and advanced are welcome to attend. Space is limited. Call (713) 274-3220 for more details.

Genealogy Classes-Join Pat Jameson on November 7th and December 5th from 12:30 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. as she continues teaching her series of genealogy research classes. Call (713) 274-3220 to register.

iPhone Class for Seniors-On October 8th from 1 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. Michelle Richardson and Heather Jacobs will make sure you are getting more familiar with your iPhone and all it can do for you. Call (713) 274-3220 to register.

Growing Orchids-On November 9th and December 7th from 1 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. learn about watering, feeding, positioning and repotting orchids. Bring your ailing orchids to class and get tips from James Nelson on how to bring them back to a healthy state. Space is limited. Call (713) 274-3220 to register.

Senior Bus Trip to Brenham-Seniors can now sign up to see the annual Bluebonnet Opry Fall Polka Show on October 18th. The bus departs at 4:30 p.m. and will take participants to Chappell Hill Bakery and Deli for dinner before the show starts at 7:30 p.m. at the Silver Wings Ballroom in Brenham. Admission is \$7. Registration is required. Call (713) 274-3220 for more information.

Senior Bus Trip to the International Quilt Festival-Houston is home to one of the world's biggest annual quilt shows. Hockley Community Center is offering a bus trip to this year's show on November 9th. To get admission tickets at the reduced group price of \$9 register by November 2nd. Lunch is on your own on site. Call (713) 274-3220 for more information.

Senior Bus Trip to La Grange-October 1st marks the day Seniors can start signing up to tour the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center (\$3) and visit Monument Hill State Historic Site (free) on November 13th. Lunch is on your own at Sealand Seafood and Steak in La Grange. Call (713) 274-3220 for more information.

Special note: Hockley Community Center is closed on November 22nd and 23rd in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Advance registration for special activities is typically requested. An adult must accompany and remain with anyone under the age of 18 visiting the center. The Hockley Community Center is part of the Harris County Precinct Three Recreation Complex at 28515 Old Washington Road in Hockley. A calendar of events is available at the Harris County Precinct Three website at www.pct3.com. For more information, call (713) 274-3220.



MAKE TIME FOR YOUR MAMMOGRAM

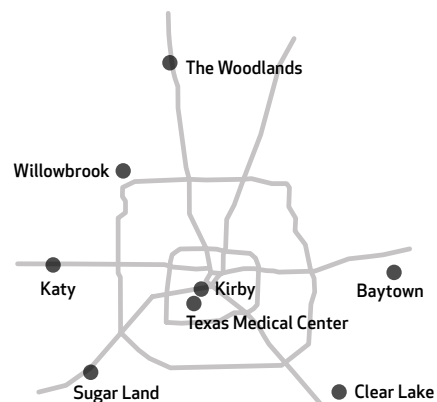
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281.737.PINK (7465) to schedule your mammogram.

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5 Ways to Honor Your Local Veterans on Veterans Day



While most of us are quick to post on social media, fly an American flag, or offer a quick handshake to a local servicemember on Veterans Day, many are unsure how to show our full appreciation for their service and sacrifice.

Below are five ways to truly honor veterans this Veterans Day:

1. Volunteer Your Time

There are hundreds of volunteer organizations that work both directly and indirectly with veterans. Turn your appreciation into action by offering your time and energy to any one of these noble causes. Contact your local VFW or American Legion to see what upcoming events may be in need of volunteers. Offer assistance to a local elderly or disabled vet, or volunteer a few hours to a local veteran-owned business. Whatever your skill, put it to use in your community by helping out the veterans closest to you. Visit texvet.com/volunteer to search for opportunities available in your area.

2. Donate Your Dollars

If you're short on time, making a monetary donation is another great way to show support. There are many organizations that offer various forms of aid and assistance to our country's servicemen and women. For instance, Homes for Our Troops builds specially-equipped homes for injured servicemembers. Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society offers financial assistance and scholarships. The Gary Sinise Foundation creates and supports unique programs specifically for veterans. There are countless organizations dedicated to improving the lives of American veterans, and they can only continue to do so with the financial support of grateful citizens like you.

3. Take Time to Listen

Taking time to have a real conversation with your neighbor seems to be a lost art in today's virtual world! Veterans have a wealth of knowledge and interesting stories to share for those willing to listen. Of course, not every veteran will be willing to share the details of his or her time in the service, but many enjoy reminiscing and sharing their unique perspective. Rather than simply thanking them for serving their country, take a moment to open up a meaningful dialogue about their military service and how it has shaped their views on life and liberty.

4. Stay Informed

How much do you really know about how our country's military works? What is the status of current legislation regarding today's active-duty troops and veterans? Which political leaders have a military background? Many people have little more than basic knowledge of America's armed forces. One of the best ways to show your appreciation is to take the time to understand exactly what role the military plays in today's world. Arm yourself with knowledge by reading (and verifying) information about the military's mission and its history, and always exercise your rights by voting for people and policies that support veterans.

5. Pay it Forward

The service of veterans is the cornerstone on which American freedom stands. It is important to appreciate both the rights and responsibilities of being an American and to work together to ensure that veterans' sacrifices are not in vain. Honor a veteran this Veterans Day by being a good citizen, a good neighbor, and a good friend. Even the smallest good deed can go a long way towards making America a better place for everyone.



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