



# CYPRESS MILL *Chronicle*

NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF CYPRESS MILL

October 2019

Volume 19, Issue 10

## PURPLE MARTIN MIGRATION

*By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center*

Everyone looks forward to the arrival of the Purple Martins each year. Most of us think their arrival means spring is just around the corner. But, at this time of the year, no one really thinks about them anymore. Most people don't know that they're very busy getting ready to migrate south.

Preparations for migration begin in July and August when the birds form large flocks and roost (a place where birds or bats regularly settle or congregate to rest at night). There can be thousands of birds in a roost. They call this gathering "staging." Some of the better-known roosts in the Houston area are Gordon Park in Stafford and around Willowbrook Mall. They spend their days eating flying insects to build up body fat for their long flight ahead.

So where do they go? In the spring of 2009, geolocators were attached to 20 birds from two Texas colonies. It was discovered that the birds wintered deep in the Amazon rainforest and traveled an amazing 250 to 300 miles per day! They can fly between 17 and 27 miles per hour unless a predator is chasing them when their speed can reach 40 miles per hour. They spend several months in South America in large roosts where they undergo their annual molt. Although their annual molt begins before migration, they don't molt their flight or tail feathers until they reach South America. Molting is very beneficial because it replaces damaged feathers and helps get rid of parasites.

Purple martins will spend several months in South America before heading back to North America. The scouts typically show up in our area in mid-January through early February. The term "scout" is used to describe the first martin(s) observed. They will go to the same nesting site from the previous year. The scouts can be either an older male or female but are usually males. Arrival of the remainder of the birds depends on their age and sex. Older male birds arrive after the scouts followed by the older females followed by the younger ones. The younger ones, or subadults, may not appear until 4 to 12 weeks after

the first ones arrive. They fledged the previous year so their first priority is to find a nesting site.

According to the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Texas martins nest almost exclusively in bird housing provided by humans. Once they have occupied a martin house, they will continue to use it year after year as long as you clean it out in the fall and keep the starlings and sparrows from moving in.

TWRC Wildlife Center has been serving the Greater Houston for 40 years. We admit nearly 5,000 injured, orphaned or displaced animals every year. Learn more about us at:

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# CYPRESS MILL

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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
<b>Pipeline Company</b> .....	281-925-3816
<i>Mowing of Pipeline easement; Standing water; Smells or leaks</i>	
<b>Street Lights</b> – Center Point Energy.....	713-207-2222
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<i>To request street signs and to report street damage, curb damage, street flooding, or missing/damaged street signs.</i>	
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## Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the newsletters is the 9<sup>th</sup> of each month.  
Please email articles to: [cypressmill@peelinc.com](mailto:cypressmill@peelinc.com)

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## CYPRESS RANCH HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR

Please join  
**The Cypress Ranch High School Choirs for our FALL CONCERT**  
Monday, October 14th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Cypress Ranch High School Auditorium

**Save the Date!!**  
**The Cypress Ranch High School Choirs Present "Candles & Carols"**

The Cypress Ranch Choirs will perform their Winter Concert, "Candles & Carols", Monday, December 9th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Cypress Ranch High School Auditorium. Join us for hot chocolate, cookies and holiday cheer!

For more information, please check the Cypress Ranch Choir website <http://www.ranchchoir.com/> or follow us on Instagram @cyranchoir.

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## ST. PETERS ANGLICAN CHURCH BIENNIAL RUMMAGE SALE AND BAKE SALE

The women of St. Peter's Anglican church will be hosting their biennial rummage sale and bake sale on Friday and Saturday, November 1 and 2, 2019. Hours are 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM each day, and will be held in the church rectory at 19915 Cypress Church Rd., Cypress, Texas 77433. This is the perfect time to put holiday baked goods in the freezer, so come on out and help the ladies fund their projects.

## BRIDGELAND HIGH SCHOOL THEATER

Bridgeland High School's theatre department presents **The Elephant Man**, two weekends in October. Showtime is **7:00 PM October 11, 12, 18 and 19**. Tickets will be available at [bridgelandhstheatre.org](http://bridgelandhstheatre.org).



## THE CYPRESS-TOMBALL DEMOCRATS



The Cypress-Tomball Democrats will hold its next monthly meeting Tuesday, October 15, 2019, at Rudy's Grill and Cantina, 11760 Grant Road, Houston. There is a meet and greet at 6:30 p.m., and the general meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.

Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense, North Harris/Montgomery Co. chapter will present the program.

Come hear about the fastest growing chapter for this organization in the entire state (700+ members!) that is comprised of all volunteers: Moms, Dads, gun owners, non-gun-owners, teachers, vets, who all support common gun sense laws.

Have children or grandchildren, nieces or nephews? Jane Kelso Winter will provide brief history of Moms and deliver a presentation on "Be SMART" - (a program now endorsed by Conroe ISD) on how to safely secure guns in homes - and why you need to ask about guns in the homes of others (as toddlers most often the victims of unsecured guns in homes!)

Also, learn from our own Jennifer Lorenz, (and Legislative Lead for Moms N. Harris/Mont. chapter) how you can become active in helping push for universal background checks and extreme risk laws that are pending in the Senate right now.

All are welcome to attend and to join this growing club, which meets on the third Tuesday of every month.

For more information, contact Undrai Fizer at [cytomdems@yahoo.com](mailto:cytomdems@yahoo.com), or visit the club's Facebook page.



# CYPRESS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



K-12  
PREVIEW  
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**THE GINGERBREAD VILLAGE HOLIDAY MARKET** will be held on **October 26, 2019** from **9 A. M. to 4 P. M.** The Ladies Auxiliary from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is hosting this unique craft show with over 100 vendors. Admission is free. It is located at 6646 Addicks Satsuma Road, Houston. Come join us!

## COCKROACHES

The common cockroaches found outside include the American and Smokybrown cockroaches. American cockroaches are about 1 ½ - 2 inches long, reddish-brown with yellow markings above the head. The adults have well-developed wings, but seldom fly; they do often glide. American cockroaches are usually found outside near decayed trees and plants, in crawl spaces and sewers. Smokybrown cockroaches are often mistaken with American cockroaches. Smokybrowns are about 1 inch long and dark brown to black. Adults have fully developed wings and are capable of flight. This species often inhabits leaf litter, compost piles and ground cover.



### American cockroach.

If you find cockroaches in your compost pile, in leaf litter or other outdoor locations, it isn't really necessary to kill them. You may want to make sure that your house is excluded to avoid having the outdoor cockroaches move indoors

when the temperatures cool down. The following tips may help:

- Prune back any vegetation touching or overhanging the home
- If you have a brick or stone façade, stuff weep holes with copper mesh
- Make sure screens are in good repair
- Replace weather stripping where doorways do not have a good seal
- Repair any water leaks
- Clean debris from gutters
- Place stainless steel screening over vent access in the attic
- Use sealant around pipe penetrations or other cracks or crevices into the home

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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## TOMBALL FINE ART SHOW

**TOMBALL FINE ART SHOW & SALE** — Twice a year TAL hosts a Judged Open Art Show and Sale (October and March) featuring original fine art. This year our show will be held Friday-Saturday, October 11th & 12th inside the LSC-Tomball Community Library. A portion of proceeds will go to the Friends of the Tomball Community Library to support library services. The show is free and open to the public with the added convenience of free parking. More information is available at: [www.thetomballartleague.com/](http://www.thetomballartleague.com/)

Entering art into the show is open to members and non-members alike and students are encouraged to enter. There are five divisions, professional, semi-professional, non-professional, adult student and school student. Within the five divisions are 11 categories such as oils/acrylics, sculpture, pastels, etc. A full prospectus and required forms can be found on the TAL website: [www.thetomballartleague.com/2019fall\\_prospectus.pdf](http://www.thetomballartleague.com/2019fall_prospectus.pdf)

Our featured judge for the fall show is professional local artist Laurie Humble ([www.lauriehumble.com](http://www.lauriehumble.com)). About the Artist: While best known for her realist works in watercolor, highlighting unusual vantage points, Laurie works in many mediums and styles. Her works in both watercolor and oil are included in private and permanent collections across the country and have garnered awards in numerous National and International Exhibitions. She enjoys experimenting with new ways to use traditional mediums. Her current passions include painting large scale oil finger-painted statement pieces, and sculpting realist figurative and abstract pieces. Her work has appeared on the cover and been the subject of a feature articles in American Artist Magazine and Watercolor Artist. It has been included in Southwest Art, International Artist, the book Splash 10, and many others.

## USA FIT CYPRESS TURKEY TROT

Make plans to join us for this year's **USA FIT Cypress Turkey Trot** to burn those calories before your Thanksgiving Feast. We have a 5K and 1010K Option for runner and walkers.

Invite your family and friends! Children Welcome! The more the merrier and it's free. Non-members are welcome, they just need to sign our waiver.

Water, Gatorade and treats available at the finish line

**Date: 11/28/19, Thanksgiving Morning**

**Time: 6:30 am**

**Place: Josey Lake Park, 1200 Bridgeland Creek Parkway, Cypress, TX.**

We look forward to seeing you Thanksgiving Morning!



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