

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:

www.twrcwildlifecenter.org

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

LAKESHORE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS CREST MANAGEMENT CO.

Community Manager

On-site Property Manager

Brittani.Bustamante@Crest-Management.com

EMERGENCY INFORMATION FIRE, MEDICAL OR LIFE THREATENING Emergency

Constable Dispatch	
Humble ISD Police (Schools)	
Harris County Animal Control	
Texas Poison Control Center	

UTILITIES

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Power Outages	713-207-7777
Street Light Outages	
U.S. Water Utility Group	
Gas, Centerpoint Energy	713-659-2111

SCHOOLS

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	www.humble.k12.tx.us
Lakeshore Elementary	
Woodcreek Middle School	
Summer Creek High School	

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COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Community Watch

Landscape Committee

Pool Committee

Garage Sales

THE LAKESHORE REPORT



Check your kids' candy for choking hazards like gum and hard candies.

> Face paint is safer than masks.

Stay visible with a reflective bag.

> Always use a crosswalk to cross the street.

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Lighter-colored costumes are easier to see in the dark.

Fire-proof your pumpkins by lighting them with glow sticks.







#MAKESAFEHAPPEN

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The Clubhouse

Looking for a place to host your next event? Well look no further the Lakeshore Community Clubhouse is available for rent. We have a capacity of 100 people as well as tables and chairs to help make your event successful. Enjoy full use of the kitchen and two spacious Great Rooms. Stop by during normal business hours for a tour and more information.







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THE LAKESHORE REPORT

"Be a "Horo This "Halloween

Being a hero goes beyond dressing up in a costume this Halloween season. Children, families and schools across the country can channel their own superpowers to help deliver lifesaving supplies to children in need this October.

One way to use your superpowers is to Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF, which began in 1950 when girls and boys across the United States collected coins in hand-painted milk cartons to help children affected by World War II. Celebrating its 69th year, this nostalgic tradition continues today as America's longest running youth volunteer program with generations of children running door to door holding signature orange boxes and singing, "Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF."

With over \$180 million raised for health care, education, nutrition



and more, the program has evolved into a month-long celebration of the power of kids helping kids. Throughout October, kids, parents and teachers across the country can be real superheroes by collecting donations, big and small.

Equipped with the iconic orange boxes, families can raise funds that add up to lifesaving change. As little as \$1 can provide safe water to a child for more than 2 months; \$3 can provide seven packets of therapeutic food; \$5 can provide a pack of 10 notebooks and \$7 can provide one warm fleece blanket for a child.

Halloween has become a "heroic" way to help others and

build the next generation of global citizens. When kids trick-or-treat for a cause, they learn about global issues and feel empowered to make a difference.

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Start creating real-world change by picking up your own little orange box. With the support of Visa Inc., the iconic box will glow in the dark, allowing superpowers to shine even brighter.

Visit TrickorTreatforUNICEF.org to download a DIY change box, donate online or find an event near you. Share your story on social media with #TOT4UNICEF, #WeCanAllBeHeroes and #KidsHelpingKids.

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THE LAKESHORE REPORT

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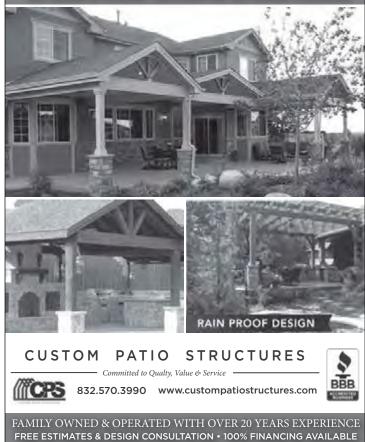
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Butter Roasted Chicken

Ingredients

• 1 whole chicken fryer, 3-5 pounds

• Assorted vegetables of your choice cut into bite size pieces if large

- 1/2 cup butter 1 stick
- 1 +1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 1 teaspoon basil
- 1 teaspoon parsley
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 425. Place butter in 9x13 baking dish and put in oven to melt while it preheats.

2. In small bowl, stir together all seasonings.

3. Once butter is melted, place chicken in center of pan. Brush melted butter all over and sprinkle liberally with seasonings, reserving about a teaspoon for veggies.

4. Arrange vegetables around chicken in pan. Sprinkle remaining seasonings over them.

5. Place this, uncovered, in oven for one to one and a half hours, basting vegetables and chicken with butter in pan from time to time and covering loosely with foil if necessary to prevent overbrowning, until chicken is fully cooked and juices run clear. 6. Enjoy!

Notes

The seasonings you use are absolutely customizable. You can do exactly as I do or just use mine as a very general guideline. I am using all dried herbs.

Low Carb Note: Make this low carb by subbing low carb veggies for the carrots and potatoes. Suggestions are: cauliflower, broccoli, asparagus, cabbage, brussels sprouts, etc.



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FACT:

Social and emotional intelligence may be the most important determinant of a child's future success.

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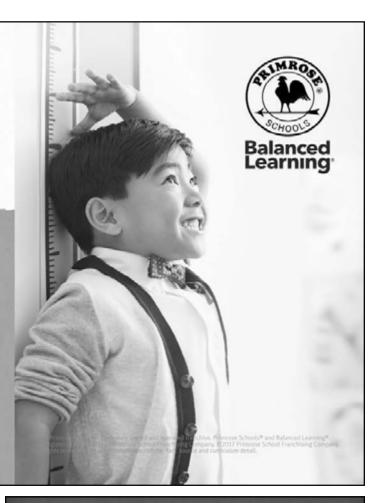
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