

Volume 18, Issue 10

October 2019

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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| Harris Co. Sheriff - (non-emergency) | |
|---|--|
| Cy-Fair Fire Department - (emergency) | |
| (non-emergency) | |
| Poison Control | 1-800-764-7661 |
| Texas DPS | 713-681-1761 |
| Waste Management | 713-695-4055 |
| (trash collection Mondays & | Thursdays) |
| TNG MUD 370 | |
| Harris County Tax Office | |
| Centerpoint Energy | 713-207-7777 |
| (give pole # of street which is out) | |
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| Centerpoint Energy Comcast Cable Houston Chronicle Metro Transit Info Kirk Elementary Truitt Middle School | 713-659-2111 713-341-1000 713-220-7211 713-635-4000 713-849-8250 281-856-1100 |

Deadline for submitting articles for the Lakes On Eldridge North Newsletter is the 10th of each month. Submissions are subject to space limitations and editorial approval. Email Articles to <u>loen@</u> <u>PEELinc.com</u>.

PERSONAL CLASSIFIED ADS: Deadline for submitting personal classified ads is the 10th of each month for publication in the following month's newsletter. Email personal classifieds to *loen@PEELinc.com*.

ADVERTISING: Deadline for submitting ads is the 8th of each month for publication in the following month's newsletter. Please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office at 888-687-6444 or

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Article Submissions

Please e-mail articles and/or photos to <u>loen@peelinc.com</u>. Submissions must be received by the 10th of the month for the following month's issue. (Advertising deadline is the 8th of the month.) 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.urbanipm.blogspot.com

This work is supported by Crops Protection and Pest Management Competitive Grants Program [grant no. 2017-70006-27188 /project accession no. 1013905] from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

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YORKSHIRE ACADEMY

Yorkshire Academy has recently been named Houston's 1st Ocean Guardian School. We were hoping you might be able to include this in upcoming newsletters.

Picture caption: 'Yorkshire Academy, Houston's 1st Ocean Guardian School' – pictured from left to right: Ian Hall, James Zeelmaekers, Nathan Tejml, Prashad Wadhwa, Lila Lohman, Sonya Savchenko, Lucy Wilson, Nicole Johnson, Atiya Adeshina, Harriet Bateman, Julia Bateman, and Jacqui Stanley. Seated from left to right: Kaelan Wolfe and Connor Jones.



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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Lakes on Eldridge North 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.





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, or visit the club's Facebook page.





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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!

Lakes on Eldridge North 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"

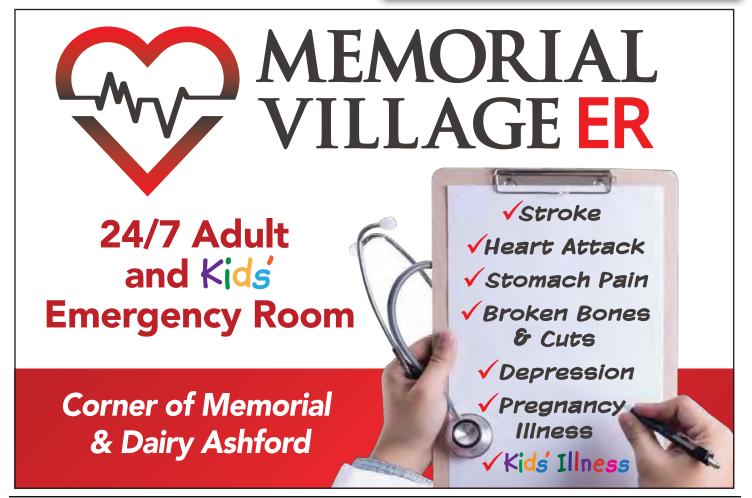
The Cypress Ranch Choirs will perform their Winter Concert, "Candles & Carols", Monday, December 9th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Cypress Ranch High School Auditorium. Join us for hot chocolate, cookies and holiday cheer! For more information, please check the Cypress Ranch Choir website http://www.ranchchoir.com/ or

follow us on Instagram @cyranchchoir.

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.





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|--------|--|
| Time: | 10:00 am till 4:00 pm |
| Where: | Lakes on Eldridge Clubhouse 12750 Lake Center Run |

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Lakes on Eldridge, where I live, work and play. Buying or selling, please contact me for the results you deserve.



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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.





Saint Aidan's Episcopal Church

Fall Festival and Holiday Market Vendor registration now open!

Are you crafty? Are you a distributor for a specialty item? Saint Aidan's Episcopal Church's ACE Committee has opened vendor registration for our 6th Annual Fall Festival and Holiday Market! The market and festival will be held Sunday, October 27, 2019 from 10-4. In addition to our outdoor booths, this year we will be offering a limited number of indoor booths!! Saint Aidan's is located in Cypress at 13131 Fry Road – just south of Hwy 290. Our festival features Market Booths, Children's Area, Petting Zoo, Pony Rides, Food Vendors, Silent Auction, Live Music throughout the day, Cake Walk, Trunk N Treat, and Blessing of Animals. For more information and to register online, visit our website at http://aidanschurch.org/fallfest, email fallfest@ aidanschurch.org, or call 281-373-3203 for a registration form.



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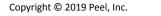
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