

November 2019 • Volume 13, Issue 11

# RANCH RECORD

News for the Residents of Blackhorse Ranch



## *A Night in Bethlehem*

**VISIT BETHLEHEM THIS SEASON ON  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH & SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH  
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. Sample the soldiers stew, 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](http://www.messiahlc.org). All people are welcome at Messiah.



## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

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Fire ..... 911  
Ambulance ..... 911  
Harris County Sheriff.....713-221-6000  
Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Dept. Bus. Office .....281-550-6663

### AREA HOSPITALS

Cy-Fair Medical Center ..... 281-897-3300  
North Cypress Medical Center ..... 281-477-0830  
Willowbrook Methodist ..... 281-477-1000

### SCHOOLS

Cy-Fair ISD ..... 281-897-4000  
Warner Elementary School..... 281-213-1645  
Spillane Middle School ..... 281-213-1645  
Cy Woods High School..... 281-213-1727  
Cy Fair High School..... 281-897-4600  
Cypress Ranch High School ..... 281-373-2300

### PUBLIC SERVICES

Cypress Post Office ..... 281-373-9125  
Drivers License Info. .... 281-955-1100  
Harris County Tax ..... 713-224-1919

### UTILITIES

En-Touch (Customer Service) ..... 281-225-1000

### NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

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Article Submissions .....[blackhorse@peelinc.com](mailto:blackhorse@peelinc.com)  
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### *Don't want to wait for the mail?*

View the current issue of the  
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of each month at [www.PEELinc.com](http://www.PEELinc.com)

## Advertising Information

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Ranch Record. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Blackhorse Ranch residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales office at 888-687-6444 or [advertising@PEELinc.com](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com). The advertising deadline is the 8th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

## 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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## Excluding Pests



When the weather turns towards autumn and leads into winter, many pests start looking for a cozy place which can often lead them inside your home. By performing a thorough inspection, you can locate areas where these pests may enter and stop them before they become a problem.

Inside the home, look around doors and windows and if you see light around them it's a sign there isn't a good seal and weather stripping should be replaced. Inspect the attic for holes or entry points for small mammals such as rats, mice, and squirrels. Attic vents should be covered with stainless steel screening to block animals from entering. Outside, inspect the perimeter of the home for cracks and crevices in the foundation that should be sealed. Locate pipe and wire penetrations that enter the structure and seal areas that allow pests to enter.

Ideas on how to exclude pests from your home:

- Trim back or prune any trees and shrubs that touch or overhang the home
- Seal pipe & wire penetrations with copper mesh, sealant, or expanding foam

- Replace weather stripping around doors and windows if there is not a good seal
- Repair or replace window screens with holes
- For homes with brick or stone facades, stuff weep holes with copper mesh
- Clean debris from gutters to reduce harborage areas for pests
- Inspect all furniture, boxes, and bags for pests before carrying them into the home
- Inspect all plants for insect pests before bringing them into the home
- Do not store firewood inside the home, against outside walls, or near doors
- Use sheet metal, hardware cloth, or steel wool to seal any areas where animals have chewed to enter the home\*\*

\*\*make sure animal is not in the home or you'll seal it inside!

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)

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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# RANCH RECORD

## THE CYPRESS-TOMBALL DEMOCRATS

**SPEAKER: BARBARA RADNOFSKY, AUTHOR A  
CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO IMPEACHMENT**



The Cypress-Tomball Democrats will hold its next monthly meeting Tuesday, November 19, 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.

Barbara Ann Radnofsky is a grandmother, mother, wife and professional mediator. She was named the Outstanding Young Lawyer of Texas in 1988. In 2006, Barbara left her partnership at Vinson & Elkins to become the first woman Texas Democratic U.S. Senate nominee and in 2010 the first woman Texas Democratic Attorney General nominee.

Practicing on both sides of the docket, she has been listed for over 25 years in "Best Lawyers in America" in multiple areas, including dispute resolution.

Barbara co-founded the Houston chapter of the National Association of Urban Debate Leagues and has served on many other charitable boards and as a volunteer peer mediation teacher in public and private schools.

Barbara's latest book is "A Citizen's Guide to Impeachment," from Melville House (New York). Ed Supkis and Barbara, married since 1982, co-own, with many other community members, Brazos Bookstore, an independent bookseller.

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 [cytomdemocrats@gmail.com](mailto:cytomdemocrats@gmail.com), or visit the club's Facebook page.

## EXPRESSING GRATITUDE THROUGH ART

November is National Gratitude Month and local nonprofit Shield Bearer is encouraging children to practice gratitude through artwork. "Gratitude is good for you! It can help with stress, moods, and our overall health and wellbeing," shared Shield Bearer Executive Director Thad Cardine. "This art contest is a great reminder to practice gratitude each day from an early age."

Local kids ages 5 to 17 are encouraged to submit original art centered around the theme "I am grateful for..." and winners will be selected in four age categories. A fun Art Contest Party to announce the winners is planned for November 21, 2019 at Plum Coffee Shop in Cypress. Elizabeth Hale, co-owner of Plum Coffee Shop shared, "We are excited to see the kids' artwork and to celebrate all there is to be grateful for this month!"

To enter the contest, visit [shieldbearer.org/art](http://shieldbearer.org/art) or stop by Plum Coffee Shop at 11688 Barker Cypress Rd, Cypress, TX or Shield Bearer at 12340 Jones Rd Ste 290 in Houston, TX to pick up an entry form. Final artwork submissions are due November 19, 2019.

For more information about Shield Bearer counseling services, programs, or training, visit [shieldbearer.org](http://shieldbearer.org) or call (281) 894-7222.



# CYPRESS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



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## THREE BILLION LOST

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center

Recently, the journal Science published a study showing that we have lost more than 1 in 4 birds from the United States and Canada since 1970. That's 3 billion! The study was conducted by scientists at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology along with six other institutions. "Birds are excellent indicators of environmental health. Severe declines in common birds, like those shown in this study, tell us something is wrong and underscores the need to become better stewards of the planet," said Dr. Nicole Michel, senior quantitative ecologist with Audubon.

The study doesn't address why we're losing birds in such great numbers but as with many wildlife species, habitat loss has to be at the top of the list. Other reasons are as follows:

- The use of pesticides – it is estimated that the United States uses 20% of all pesticides used globally every year. That's a staggering 1.2 billion pounds. Pesticides are used for agricultural purposes, forest and rangeland management and golf courses. They are also used in and around our homes.
- Climate change – Audubon conducted a study of 588 bird species and discovered that more than half are in trouble. Three hundred fourteen bird species will lose more than half of their climatic range

by 2080. To read the full report, go to <https://climate.audubon.org>.

- Cats – According to a study by the Smithsonian Conservatory Biology Institute, over 2.4 billion birds are killed by cats, both pets and feral, in the U.S. every year.

- Collisions - windows, wind turbines, and other structures. According to the American Bird Conservancy, up to one billion birds die every year in the US when they hit windows and other structures. The Smithsonian estimates that wind turbines account for up to 328,000 bird deaths annually.

So what can we do to be better stewards of the environment? Use organic pesticides. Keep your pet cats indoors. In some cities and communities it is illegal to let your pet cat roam free outside. Use decals or tape on your windows to prevent bird collisions. These are just a few of the many things we can do to help our environment. Let's all learn to live in harmony with the animals we share our world with.

TWRC Wildlife Center is a 40-year-old non-profit organization located in Houston. Over 5,000 ill, injured, or orphaned animals are brought to us every year in need of medical care. Be sure to follow us on Facebook and refer to our website for helpful wildlife information—[www.twrcwildlifecenter.org](http://www.twrcwildlifecenter.org).

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## Parker House Rolls

**Level: Intermediate**

Total: 2 hr 45 min

Prep: 20 min

Inactive: 2 hr

Cook: 25 min

Yield: about 24 rolls

### Ingredients:

1 1/2 cups milk

1 stick unsalted butter, cut into pieces, plus more for brushing

1/2 cup sugar

1 package active dry yeast

1/2 cup warm water

3 large eggs, lightly beaten

1 1/2 teaspoons salt

6 cups all-purpose flour

### Directions:

-Place milk in a small saucepan and bring to a simmer. Remove from the heat, stir in the butter and sugar and let cool.

-Dissolve yeast in warm water and let sit until foamy. Combine milk mixture, eggs, yeast, salt, and 1/2 of the flour in a mixer with the dough attachment and mix until smooth.

-Add the remaining flour, 1/2 cup at a time, and stir until a smooth ball forms. Remove from the bowl and knead by hand on a floured surface for about 5 minutes.

-Place in greased bowl, cover, and let rise in a warm place until doubled in bulk, about 60 to 70 minutes.

-On a floured surface, punch down the dough and shape into desired shapes.

-Place on a parchment paper-lined baking sheet. Cover again and let rise until doubled, about 30 to 40 minutes.

-Preheat the oven 350 degrees F. Bake for about 20 minutes or until golden brown.

-Remove from the oven and brush with melted butter before serving.



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