

THE
Current
Shadow Creek Ranch

DECEMBER 2019
VOLUME 11, ISSUE 12



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SHADOW CREEK RANCH

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	911
Fire.....	911
Ambulance	911
Sheriff – Non-Emergency	281-331-9000
Pearland Police Department	281-997-4100

SCHOOLS

Mary Marek Elementary	281-245-3232
Laura Ingalls Wilder Elementary	281-245-3090
Manvel Junior High	281-331-1416
Alvin Senior High	281-331-8151
Manvel High School	281-245-2235
Alvin ISD Administration	281-338-1130
Alvin ISD Transportation	281-331-0960

UTILITIES

Electricity - Reliant Energy.....	713-207-7777
Gas - Center Point	713-659-2111
Trash Removal - City of Pearland	281-652-1600

CITY

Pearland City Hall.....	281-652-1600
Pearland Utility Billing - Water Dept.	281-652-1603
Pearland Animal Control.....	281-652-1970
Pearland Police Dept - Non-Emergency	281-652-1100
Pearland Public Works.....	281-652-1900

OTHER NUMBERS

Pearland Post Office	281-485-2132
Poison Control.....	800-764-7661
Brazoria County Health Department	979-864-1484
Animal Control.....	281-756-2265
Cable/Internet/Phone...COMCAST	713-341-1000

NEWSLETTER

Articles.....	shadowcreekranch@peelinc.com
Publisher	
Peel, Inc.	1-888-687-6444
Advertising.....	1-888-687-6444

(Continued from Cover)

The Wildlife Drummers

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center

Is it a red-headed woodpecker or a red-bellied woodpecker? One would think that the names are self-explanatory, right? One has a red head and one has a red belly. Both birds have red feathers on their heads so you might hear people tell you they saw a red-headed woodpecker when in fact it was a red-bellied woodpecker that they saw. A red-bellied woodpecker was named for an area on the lower front that is actually a light pinkish-rosy color—not really red. The top and back of the male’s head is red. Females lack the red crown but do have a red patch on the nape of the neck. Red-headed woodpeckers have a solid red head, neck and the top of the breast.

Both red-bellied and red-headed woodpeckers are year-round residents in our area with the red-bellied being the most common. They eat insects, acorns, other types of nuts, berries, fruit, seeds, and will also eat sap from trees, mice, and nestlings (baby birds). They like to store food in cracks and crevices of trees.

Woodpeckers like to use their beaks to “drum” on hollow limbs, utility poles, gutters or the siding of your house. This “drumming” is used to attract and communicate with potential mates, to communicate a food source to its mate or can be a call for help at the nest. They can drum up to twenty times a second.

The red-bellied female will lay up to five eggs. One egg is laid each day. Babies are fed by both parents for up to four weeks. Once they fledge, Mom and Dad will continue to look after them for another six or more weeks. The red-headed female will lay between four and seven eggs. Both parents feed the babies. What’s unique about the red-bellies is that they can have two broods in the same season. They may still be caring for their fledglings while attempting to have their second brood.

Some interesting facts about woodpeckers are:

- Woodpeckers have stiff feathers near the nostrils that prevent small pieces of wood from getting into the nostril.
- They have extremely sharp claws for hanging on trees. There are four toes on each foot and the arrangement of the toes is called “zygodactyl.” The first and fourth toes are pointed backwards, the second and third face forward.
- The tail of the woodpecker has spikes that dig into tree trunks and helps to keep the bird anchored.
- Woodpeckers have extraordinarily long tongues. There is a barb at the tip for catching insects and grubs.

Texas Wildlife Rehabilitation Coalition (TWRC) is celebrating 40 years serving the greater Houston area. Thank you to all of our supporters and those that care about wildlife as much as we do. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, call 713.468.8972.

SHADOW CREEK RANCH

The Junior Tiger Fun Run

The Klein Collins Cross Country and Track and Field Programs are pleased to announce the return of the Junior Tiger Fun Run. In its 6th edition, the run will take place on January 25, 2020. The event benefits KCHS' track and field and cross country programs and offers a Kids 2K and 3K by grade, Parent 5K as well as the Tiger Marketplace!

The event will take place on January 25, 2020 at Klein Collins High School Track. Registration is now open online at <https://kleincollinsxctrack.teamapp.com/events/9551783>. Cost is \$18 children and \$20 adults, and \$20/\$25 for regular registration. The first 150 runners registering for the event will receive a free T-shirt and goodie bag. All proceeds from the Fun Run benefit the Klein Collins boys and girls Cross Country and Track Programs.



Bridgeland HS Theatre presents *The Lost Boy*. This is a fictional account of the author's creation of the Peter Pan character, sure to warm your heart. Showtimes are 7 PM on December 6, 7, 13 and 14. Tickets available at bridgelandhstheatre.org

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ALBION HURRICANES



Albion Hurricanes FC (AHFC), established in 1989, is leading the way in South Texas youth soccer by inspiring and developing young men and women through world class coaching and innovative techniques, as well as instilling the proper framework, self-esteem, confidence and sportsmanship within our athletes.

The club invites all interested competitive players from the ages of 7 to 13, to the Player Evaluations and to become part of our success. AHFC competitive evaluations will be the first week of December. We ask that all interested players pre-register before coming out to the fields. Please visit albionhurricanes.org for details about your particular campus. Players older than 13 interested in joining AHFC will need to contact the Directors below.

Boys Director: Mark Rufo - mrufo@albionhurricanes.org

Girls Director: Dan Hill - dhill@albionhurricanes.org

ECNL/Elite Director: Steve Firth - sfirth@albionhurricanes.org

AHFC also offers JHSL (a recreational program for 4 - 10 year old) at our Cy Fair and Central locations and offers additional training at Katy Friday Night Academy as well at Thursday Night Academy for players in the New Territory area

Visit albionhurricanes.org to register and for times and dates of the evaluations.

Cypress Christian School Events

Cypress Christian Advanced Theatre students competed in the Division I TAPPS One Act Play competition. Students performed their production of *These Shining Lives* by Melanie Marnich and received third place in district..

National Junior Honor Society is hosting our annual Operation Christmas Child.

The purpose of OCC is to share the gospel with children around the world by filling shoe boxes with small Christmas gifts.

On January 16, 2020, 7p.m. future sixth graders and their parents are invited to explore sixth grade with the help of the Middle School Principal, Dean of Students and current CCS parents. Classroom tours will be available. The event will begin in the West Gym.

On January 30, 2020, 7p.m. future kindergartners and their parents are invited to our Kindergarten Preview. The event will be held in the Elementary Building.

Cypress-Tomball Democrats' Holiday Party

**December 10, 2019 7:00pm
Campioni's Restaurant, 13850 Cutten Rd**

Members, their families, and guest are invited to join us for our annual CyTom Democrats Holiday Party. Members who are current with dues, can participate free. Memberships are \$25 for a single membership, and \$40 dollars for couples. The price for guests is \$30.

Members & guests are asked to bring a child's gift/toy to the party. These gifts will be donated to Cypress Assistance Ministries.

RSVP as soon as possible, by clicking on the Event link & clicking 'going' to ensure an accurate head-count

<https://www.facebook.com/>

[events/470279523623047/?active_tab=about](https://www.facebook.com/events/470279523623047/?active_tab=about)

RSVPs may also be sent to CyTomDemocrats@gmail.com

2019 Cypress-Tomball Holiday Dinner

SHADOW CREEK RANCH

Still on the Fence about Hosting an Exchange Student?

You don't have any kids? Are you a single parent? Same sex couple? An empty nester? This is not a problem, we place our students in all kinds of families!

You're not rich? Neither am I! Your exchange student comes with their own spending money and health insurance. All you provide is room/board and three meals a day. Oh and TLC...but that's free.

Live in the middle of no where? Small town? Not a big deal. Some kids prefer to get away from the hustle and bustle of big cities. The exchange students also do pretty well in small schools, as they usually get to be the center of attention and make friends rather quickly. Our students also get chances to travel to New York, Washington DC, Hawaii and California...so they can get their fill of the city life and return back to the peaceful sounds of nature.

Do you consider yourself a boring person? More than likely this is not true, and you should quit being so hard on yourself. Your student will make friends. Your student will meet other exchange students. Your student will attend activities offered by our program. Your student will get involved in sports and school clubs. Your purpose is not to entertain them. But you might find that you bring a little adventure to each others lives.

Kids are too young? Great! Lots of students love young kids, and your kids will love them. It's beneficial to introduce your kids to

new cultures at a very young age. You're preparing them to accept people no matter what the religion, color of their skin, or language they speak. That my friend, is good parenting.

Don't hold back! This is a great experience for both parties. You get the opportunity to change a child's life. You get the satisfaction of seeing them grow, even after they leave your home into becoming a doctor, a lawyer, a diplomat, artist, teacher...the list goes on. And you contributed to that success! And the best part of it all, is you gain another family member for life. We need people like you to give these kids a chance.

STS Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to place exchange students in our area. If you are interest in hosting, please contact me at 832-455-7881 or at vicki.stsfoundation@yahoo.com. I'll be happy to answer any question you might have and get you started on hosting your very own student!



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Merry Christmas
And Happy New Year!

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FROM EVERYONE AT PEEL, INC.

Celebrate the Season with Enjoyable Desserts



Enjoyment Peppermint Pie

Whether you're huddled around the fireplace, gathered at the table or strolling through a winter wonderland, the holidays are all about enjoying pure and memorable moments with family and friends. With all of the seasonal gatherings, you can certainly expect that almost any host or guest will attempt to provide a classic holiday treat for everyone to enjoy.

This year, you can give your traditional holiday bake a refreshing twist sure to spread all kinds of holiday cheer with this Enjoyment Peppermint Pie topped with Homemade Whipped Cream, which can be easily whipped up with less than 10 ingredients total.

From pumpkin pies to gingerbread cookies and everything in-between, an option like DairyPure Heavy Whipping Cream can be a must-have kitchen staple this season, one you can feel good about knowing it's sourced from trusted dairies.

For more recipes for the holidays and every day, visit DairyPure.com, and find DairyPure on Facebook, Instagram and Pinterest. Downloaded from FamilyFeatures.com.

Prep time: 15 minutes

Cook time: 20 minutes

- 1 envelope unflavored gelatin
- 1/4 cup cold water
- 2 1/2 cups DairyPure Heavy Whipping Cream, divided
- 8 ounces soft peppermint candy
- 1 chocolate cookie crust
- crushed peppermint candies, for garnish

Soften gelatin in water; set aside.

In small saucepan over low heat, cook 1/2 cup whipping cream with candy until candy melts.

Add gelatin; mix well.

Whip remaining whipping cream. Let gelatin mixture cool and fold in whipped cream, reserving 1/2 cup for garnish.

Pour into crust. Chill.

Before serving, top with reserved whipped cream and crushed peppermint candies.

Homemade Whipped Cream



2 tablespoons granulated or confectioners' sugar

2 cups DairyPure Heavy Whipping Cream

1 teaspoon vanilla extract or liqueur

In chilled glass bowl, add sugar to whipping cream. Using whisk or hand mixer, incorporate sugar into heavy whipping cream until it begins to thicken, leaving visible trails. Continue to whip until soft peaks start to form.

Fold in vanilla extract or liqueur. Serve immediately or refrigerate and remix 1-2 minutes before serving.



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