

THE BULLETIN

Belterra Community News

March 2020 Volume 2, Issue 3

News for the Residents of Belterra

Baby Squirrel Season: What You Need to Know

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center



And so it begins. Baby season 2020 and it all begins with baby squirrels. There are a number of reasons why baby squirrels get separated from mom. Homeowners cut down trees that have nests, high winds can blow nests down or can knock babies out of the nest or sometimes they just fall out. Whatever the reason, you can help.

The first thing you want to do is make sure the baby is safe and warm. Put it in

a box or other small container with a soft towel or t-shirt. You can microwave a sock filled with rice for one minute and place it in the box with the baby or set 1/2 of the box on top of a heating pad set to low. **DO NOT TRY TO FEED IT.** If you do not see any blood on the baby and there are no ants crawling on it, you can try to reunite it with mom. A squirrel's real mom is the best mom.

1. Place the box with the baby squirrel in it near where you found the baby. You can also attach string or twine to the box and securely hang it from a low branch. Just remember to keep an eye on it from a distance so it's safe from dogs, cats and other predators.

2. Getting the baby to call for its mom can help. Sometimes gently picking up the baby will cause it to call her. You can also try holding one foot and applying gentle pressure. **DO NOT SQUEEZE HARD.** This is a tiny, fragile baby.

3. If it's raining lightly, cover half the box and put the baby on the dry half. If it's pouring, keep the baby inside until the rain lets up. Remember to **KEEP IT WARM.**

4. Be patient. It can take up to four hours for mom to come and get her little one. If she doesn't, you'll need the help of a rehabilitator. Bring the baby to us. If it's after hours, keep the baby in a quiet, dark room and keep it warm until we open. Do not attempt to feed it.

If you notice injuries, keep the baby safe and warm in a dark room until you can get it to us. Do not handle it.



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY 911
 Ambulance / Fire..... 911

SCHOOLS

Dripping Springs ISD 512-858-3000
 Dripping Springs Elementary 512-858-3700
 Walnut Springs Elementary 512-858-3800
 Rooster Springs Elementary..... 512-465-6200
 Dripping Springs Middle School..... 512-858-3400
 Dripping Springs High School 512-858-3100

UTILITIES

Water – WCID # 1 & 2 512-246-0498
 Trash – Texas Disposal..... 512-246-0498
 Gas – Texas Community Propane..... 512-272-5503
 Electricity – Pedernales Electric 512-858-5611

OTHER

Oak Hill Post Office 512-892-2794
 Animal Control..... 512-393-7896

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Indianmeal Moths



Probably the most encountered pantry pest by homeowners is the Indianmeal moth. These moths can be found in pet food, birdseed, cereals, dried fruit, nuts, powdered milk, candy, and more. Food can become infested while in fields, warehouses, or stores and

then brought into the home with infested products.

Indianmeal moth adults are small with grayish wings tipped in copper. Larvae are creamy-yellow to yellowish-green to pinkish in color with a dark brown head. Larvae tend to feed on the top of infested items and may produce silk that binds the food together. When larvae are preparing to pupate, they leave the item where they were feeding and crawl to corners or edges of walls, shelves, containers, or other items to spin a silken cocoon.

To eliminate a pantry pest problem, the first step is to locate and remove all infested items. Begin with oldest food items, usually in the back of the pantry, and inspect everything, including unopened food items since these may also be a source. When you find an infested item, do not stop your inspection, multiple items can be infested. Not all pantry pest infestations come from the pantry. Check rooms for items such as dried, decorative peppers, dried flowers, potpourri, natural supplements, make-up, or rice heating packs.

Infested items can be thrown away or treated with heat or cold. If you don't want to throw away food, either place infested food in a ziptop plastic bag and place it in the freezer for about 5-7 days or spread infested food in a thin layer on a baking sheet and bake at 250 degrees for 4-6 hours to kill any insects. Once all insects are dead, you can sift the food or pick out the insects. Another option would be to leave the insects in the food and get a little more protein with your meal!

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

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**The Dripping Springs
 Farmers Market
 is each Wednesday from
 3p - 6p.**

TEENAGE JOB SEEKERS

NAME	AGE	BABY SIT	HOUSE SIT	PET SIT	PHONE
Jakob Becker*	15	✓		✓	917-213-6143



+ CPR TRAINING / FIRST AID TRAINING * HAS REFERENCES

If you are a teenager and want to be included on the babysitter/pet sitter/house sitter list or if you are on this list and want to update your information, contact advertising@peelinc.com.

Tropical Fruit Salad With Coconut Crunch

1 large egg white
 2 tablespoons clover or orange-blossom honey
 1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla paste or extract
 1 teaspoon grated Meyer-lemon zest, plus 2 tablespoons fresh juice
 1 tablespoon poppy seeds Pinch of kosher salt
 2/3 cup unsweetened shredded coconut
 1 quart strawberries, halved lengthwise if large
 2 mangoes, peeled, pitted, and cut lengthwise into 1-inch thick pieces
 1 small papaya, peeled, halved, seeded, and cut lengthwise into 1-inch-thick pieces
 1 small pineapple, peeled, cored, and cut into 1-inch-thick
 Directions: Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Whisk egg white with honey, vanilla, lemon zest and juice, poppy seeds, and salt until foamy and thoroughly combined. Stir in coconut to evenly coat; spread on a rimmed baking sheet in a thin layer. Bake, stirring a few times, until golden in places, 22 to 25 minutes.
 Let cool completely (mixture will crisp as it cools). Rub between your fingers, breaking up any clumps, until crumbled. Arrange fruits on a platter; sprinkle with coconut crunch to serve. Fruits can be loosely covered with plastic, without coconut crunch, and refrigerated up to 8 hours. Coconut crunch can be stored in an airtight container at room temperature up to 1 week.




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Host Families Needed *A Cultural Experience*

Want to bring a little culture into your life and the lives of your children? Why not try hosting a high school foreign exchange student? It's a great way to learn about a new culture all from the comfort of your home.

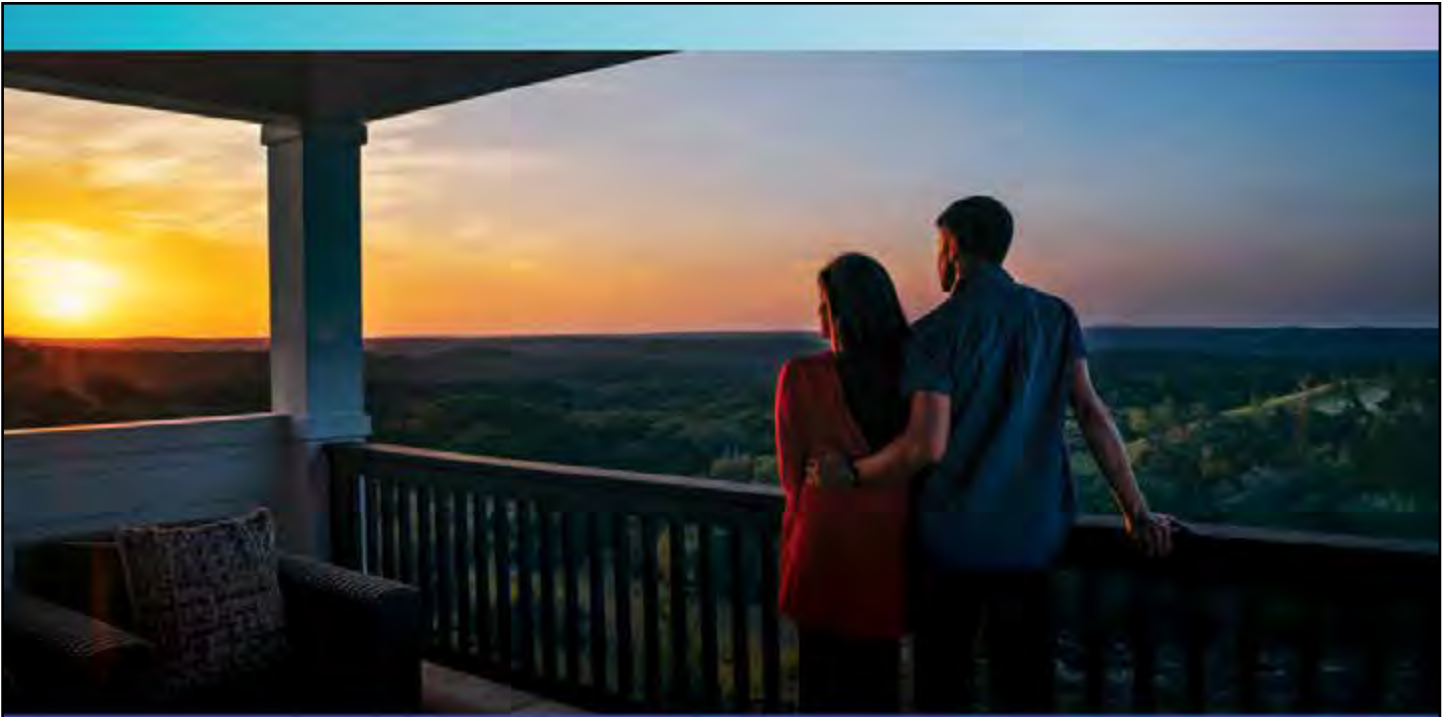
STS Foundation is currently looking for host families for the 2020/2021 school year. Hosting is such a rewarding experience and it benefits all of those involved.

STS Foundation accepts all types of host families – from single parents, newly marrieds, empty nesters and same sex couples. In order to host, you would need to meet the following qualifications:

- Host must be 25 years or older
- Pass a background check
- Provide food for 3 meals daily
- Ensure reliable transportation to and from school (bus is ok)
- A bed for your student
- A safe and loving home

STS Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization that places foreign exchange students with American host families. For more information about hosting, please contact me at 832-455-7881 PM me or email at vicki.stsfoundation@yahoo.com.





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If you want more information, contact Liz Jensen at 512-301-6966 or lizleej@gmail.com or Peter Berardino (The King of SWING) at 512-695-2334 or peterberardino@gmail.com.

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