

# The Tribune



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A NEWSLETTER FOR TOWNE LAKE RESIDENTS

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AUGUST 2020

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 8



## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| EMERGENCY .....                         | 911          |
| Fire.....                               | 911          |
| Ambulance .....                         | 911          |
| Constable .....                         | 281-376-3472 |
| Sheriff - Non-emergency .....           | 713-221-6000 |
| - Burglary & Theft .....                | 713-967-5770 |
| - Auto Theft .....                      | 281-550-0458 |
| - Homicide/Assault .....                | 713-967-5810 |
| - Child Abuse .....                     | 713-529-4216 |
| - Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence..... | 713-967-5743 |
| - Runaway Unit .....                    | 713-755-7427 |
| Poison Control.....                     | 800-222-1221 |
| Traffic Light Issues .....              | 713-881-3210 |

### SCHOOLS

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Cypress Fairbanks ISD Administration ..... | 281-897-4000 |
| Cypress Fairbanks ISD Transportation ..... | 281-897-4380 |
| Rennell Elementary.....                    | 281-213-1550 |
| Smith Junior High School.....              | 281-213-1010 |
| Cy-Ranch High School .....                 | 281-373-2300 |

### UTILITIES

|                                |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| CenterPoint Energy.....        | 713-659-2111 |
| Reliant Energy.....            | 713-207-2222 |
| Water - Severn Trent.....      | 281-646-2383 |
| Waste Management - Trash ..... | 713-686-6666 |

### OTHER NUMBERS

|                                       |              |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Animal Control.....                   | 281-999-3191 |
| Cypress Fairbanks Medical Center..... | 281-890-4285 |
| Harris County Health Department ..... | 713-439-6260 |
| Post Office.....                      | 281-859-9021 |
| Harris County Public Library.....     | 281-290-3210 |
| Cy-Fair Hospital.....                 | 281-890-4285 |
| North Cypress Medical Center.....     | 832-912-3500 |

### NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Peel, Inc. ....           | 1-888-687-6444                          |
| Article Submissions ..... | townelake@PEELinc.com                   |
| Advertising.....          | advertising@PEELinc.com, 1-888-687-6444 |

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### ARTICLE INFO

The *Tribune* is mailed monthly to all Towne Lake residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to submit information about their organizations in the newsletter. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, recipes, special celebrations, and birthday announcements are also welcome.

To submit an article for consideration please email it to [townelake@peelinc.com](mailto:townelake@peelinc.com). The deadline is the 9th of the month prior to the issue.

## FAIRFIELD REPUBLICANS MEETING



With Chairs of the Harris County  
Fairfield Republican Party Precincts  
The RE/Max Office at  
20467 Cypresswood Dr., Suite A  
Cypress, TX 77433  
Thursday Evening  
At 7:00 PM | August 27, 2020

We are planning to continue our meetings in August. Please join your Fairfield Precinct Chairs of 111, 124 and 405. We will continue to prepare for the November 3, 2020 General Election. Also, the meeting will include information about the State Convention and Runoff Election held in July 2020. Please come prepared to discuss what you can do to help.



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# CICADA KILLER WASPS



Cicada killer wasps are very large wasps reaching up to 1 ½ inches long and can be somewhat frightening if you see them flying about your lawn. These wasps have a reddish-brown head and thorax, a black and yellow abdomen, and wings with a rusty tinge. Females are capable of stinging, the stinger is a modified egg laying structure, but are rarely aggressive. Males look similar to females and are territorial; they will buzz near you if you enter their territory. Once you leave the male's territory, the wasp will ignore you.

Cicada killers can be considered beneficial insects since they help to control cicada populations. Cicadas, common in Texas trees in the summer, are stung and paralyzed by female cicada killer wasps then carried back to a burrow dug in the ground by the female wasps. The female wasp pulls the cicada into the burrow where it is tucked into a side tunnel and has an egg deposited upon it. When the egg hatches, the cicada killer larva eats the cicada(s) provided.

Cicada killers usually do not warrant any control methods. If people are uncomfortable with large wasps flying over their lawn or do not like the holes caused by the wasps, then insecticidal dust can be sprinkled around the opening of the burrow. Tamp the dust around the opening with your shoe and as the wasps work on cleaning out the entrance to the burrow, they will pick

up the dust on their body and eventually die.

Please note that cicada killer wasps are often mistaken for Asian giant hornets (AGH), also referred to as "murder hornets". AGH have not been found in Texas and have only been located in Washington state within the U.S.

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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## SKUNKS ARE THEY GOOD FOR ANYTHING?

Actually, yes, they are. For most people, the only thing they know about skunks is that they stink but they are very beneficial to farmers and homeowners. They eat garden and agricultural pests in large numbers. They feed on larvae, worms, fruit, eggs, reptiles, small mammals, bees, wasps and fish.

Texas is home to five species of skunks—the eastern spotted, striped, two types of hog-nosed and the hooded skunk. The hooded skunk is considered a Mexican species and can only be found in a few Texas counties near Mexico. The striped skunk is the most common skunk in North America. It has a white stripe on either side of its back that extends over the head and down the sides of the tail. The spotted skunk can only be found in eastern Texas, the Panhandle and the eastern United States. It gets its name from having a small white spot on its forehead and a spot in front of each ear. The American hog-nosed skunk is the largest skunk in the world. They have one broad white stripe from the top of the head to the base of the tail and a long, bushy white tail. They can be found in southern and central Texas.

The eastern spotted skunk is small and unlike the other species of skunks, its movements are similar to that of the squirrel. They are very active and can even climb trees. Due to threats such as habitat loss, pesticide use and vehicle strikes across the spotted skunk's entire range, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is evaluating the species' status and will determine if it should be listed as threatened or endangered. It plans to make a listing recommendation in 2023.

Skunks are very docile animals and they will warn predators before releasing the oily substance from their anal glands that contains the active ingredient, n-butyl mercaptan. They'll do a little dance, stomp the ground, slap their tail on the ground and may even stand on their back legs. They're giving you fair

warning. Once they spray, they are unable to do it again for ten days. If you encounter a skunk, stop immediately and slowly back away.

1. If your pet gets sprayed, here's what the American Kennel Club recommends. It may not completely remove the smell but it'll get rid of most of it.

2. Check the eyes. If affected, flush with cool water or purchase an eye wash from your vet and keep on hand if you live in an area with a high population of skunks.

3. Mix 1 quart of 3% hydrogen peroxide solution (found at any pharmacy or supermarket), 1/4 cup of baking soda and 1 teaspoon of liquid dishwashing soap.

4. Wear rubber gloves and thoroughly wash your pet. Don't leave the solution on too long. You may have to repeat the process.

5. Use a regular pet shampoo and wash your pet again to remove any residual solution.

6. Towel dry your pet.

If you need to wash your clothes, use 1/2 cup of baking soda with your regular detergent.

DO NOT STORE solution for later use. If kept in a covered container, it can explode. Do not get the solution in your pet's eyes. Don't use a peroxide solution stronger than 3%.

TWRC Wildlife Center is available to answer your questions and guide you through the rescue process should you find an animal needing help. Sometimes animals don't need help and are better left alone. We will help you make that determination. Call us at 713-468-8972 or check our website for helpful information: [www.twrcwildlifecenter.org](http://www.twrcwildlifecenter.org).





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## CYTOM DEMOCRATS



*August Speaker: Mariana Sanchez, Bonding Against Adversity*

The Cypress-Tomball Democrats will hold its next virtual monthly meeting Tuesday, August 18, 2020. There is a meet and greet at 6:30 p.m. The general meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. For the access ZOOM access code, email [cytomdemocrats@gmail.com](mailto:cytomdemocrats@gmail.com).

The speaker will be Mariana Sanchez founder of Bonding Against Adversity (BAA). Ms. Sanchez immigrated from Ecuador as a single mother with two children. She witnessed first-hand the struggles that immigrant families face. She saw families living in unsafe conditions in multi-family housing, many in poor health because of poor nutrition, with children at risk of dropping out of school. To address these issues, she founded Bonding Against Adversity to assist immigrants with finding safe housing, healthy living, dropout prevention and citizenship assistance. Today, the organization helps immigrants in Harris County mainly with citizenship preparation and workshops to help legal permanent residents complete the paperwork needed to apply for citizenship. Since its founding ten years ago, the organization has helped over 10,000 persons to address these issues and follow the pathway to becoming citizens.

All are welcome to attend and to join this growing club, which meets on the third Tuesday of every month.

For more information & access to the ZOOM Virtual meeting, contact Undrai Fizer at [cytomdemocrats@gmail.com](mailto:cytomdemocrats@gmail.com), or visit the club's Facebook page.

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## SAINT AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 7TH ANNUAL 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 has opened vendor registration for our 7th Annual Fall Festival and Holiday Market! The market and festival will be held Sunday, October 25, 2020 from 10-4. We will have both indoor and outdoor 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, Music, Cake Walk, and a Trunk N Treat. For more information and to register online, visit our website at <http://aidanschurch.org> and click on the Fall Festival icon or if you prefer to mail in your registration, you can obtain a Booth Reservation form by contacting us at 281.373.3203, or email [fallfest@aidanschurch.org](mailto:fallfest@aidanschurch.org).

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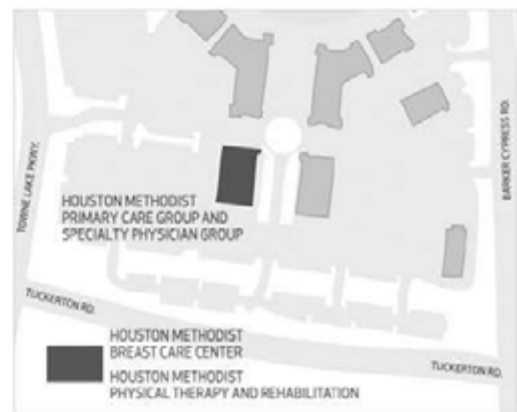


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