

Worham Villages

The Voice

Volume 20, Issue 11

November 2020



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ON PAGE 2

Photo by Keith Turpin

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Life Threatening Emergency.....	911
Fire	911
Sheriff's Department.....	911
Poison Control.....	800.222.1222

NON-EMERGENCY NUMBERS

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Harris County Health Dept.....	713.439.6000
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Gas - Centerpoint.....	713.659.2111
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7050 Brook Hollow West	713.937.9108

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NEW TOMBALL RESIDENTS

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center

A pair of beautiful bald eagles are now calling Tomball, Texas, home and they've become quite the attraction. People are coming from miles around just to get a glimpse of them and to snap a photo. Should you decide to come and take a look, remember to keep your distance and do not disturb the birds in any way.

Bald eagles are protected by multiple federal laws that include the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the Lacey Act as well as other state and municipal protections that may be in place. The Eagle Act was originally passed in 1940 and was amended in 1972, increasing civil penalties. The Act provides criminal penalties for persons who "take, possess, sell, purchase, barter, offer to sell, purchase or barter, transport, export or import, at any time or any manner, any bald eagle ... [or any golden eagle], alive or dead, or any part*, nest, or egg thereof." The Act defines "take" as "pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, molest or disturb."

"Disturb" means: "to agitate or bother a bald or golden eagle to a degree that causes, or is likely to cause, based on the best scientific information available, 1) injury to an eagle, 2) a decrease in its productivity, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior, or 3) nest abandonment, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior."

Here are some interesting facts about Bald Eagles:

- They have been our national symbol since 1782.
- They are almost always found near water.
- They live to be between 20 and 30 years old. The oldest recorded bald eagle was 38.
- Their wingspan is between 6 feet and 7.5 feet.
- Females are larger than males.
- They can see 4 to 7 times better than humans.
- They can see fish up to a mile away.
- They mate for life but should one of the pair die, the other will find another mate.
- They return to the same nest every year. They will make repairs and add additional twigs, grass, etc. each year. The nests average 2-4 feet deep and 4-5 feet wide. The largest nest on record weighed 2 tons!

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- The female lays 1 to 3 eggs and both the male and female take turns sitting on the eggs. The first egg will hatch after 35 days of incubation. The next egg will hatch several days later.

- Sometimes the first eaglet to hatch will kill the younger one(s).
- By 3 weeks of age, the feet and beaks are nearly as large as an adult.
- Eaglets fledge between 8 and 14 weeks of age.
- It's not until 3 years of age that the head and tail begin to turn white. In the 4th year, the eagle gets its white head, tail and upper and undertail coverts.
- Eagles can swim—sort of. If they swoop down for a fish and it's too heavy, they will paddle to shore.

TWRC Wildlife Center asks that you respect all wildlife. With regard to the Tomball eagles, keep your distance, view with binoculars, keep the noise level down and report anyone harassing them or getting too close. They could be breaking a federal law.

www.twrcwildlifecenter.org

713-468-TWRC

ADULT ENGLISH CLASSES AT ENGLISH GATEWAY

English Gateway is a program designed to teach conversational English. The vision and desire of English Gateway is to assist international families in learning and improving English skills to help them live and be successful here in the United States. We offer 6 different levels and have open registration throughout the CFISD school year.

- Where does English Gateway meet? We meet at Bayou City Fellowship, 12715 Telge Rd., Cypress, TX 77429.
- When does English Gateway meet? We offer two options: Thursday mornings, 9:30-11:30 am; Thursday evenings, 6:30-8:30 pm.
- What is the school calendar?
English Gateway classes coincide with CFISD school calendar
- When can I register and start class?

First day of class: September 17, 2020

There is open registration so you can come any Thursday, take a placement test, and go immediately to class.

How much does it cost? There is a one-time fee of \$20 for the books; classes are free.

For more information, please contact the English Gateway Program Coordinator: esl@bayoucityfellowship.com



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WORTHAM VILLAGES

Cy-Fair Helping Hands Keeps Vision to Serve

By Patricia Hudson

When Jean and John Dreyer founded Cy-Fair Helping Hands in 2010, their vision was to help the homeless become self-sufficient. Many families in the community were also struggling with food insecurity. Today, this all-volunteer ministry has grown from a husband and wife team to more than 50 volunteers, and is serving thousands in the Cy-Fair community monthly.

Jean Dreyer, Executive Director of Homeless Initiatives, and Patricia Hudson, Executive Director of Community Outreach, oversee multiple programs designed to serve the homeless and those living below the poverty level. Seven months into the Coronavirus pandemic, many have experienced loss of income, are desperate to feed their families and are seeking emergency shelter. Assisting the homeless and impoverished by regularly providing food, basic needs, guidance, and a safe place continues to fuel the passion for serving at CFHH.



Homeless Initiatives

The Homeless Initiatives Emergency Shelter program provides shelter for families with children, homeless teens, and disabled individuals. Homeless Outreach Teams meet and build relationships with more than 50 homeless weekly. Prior to the pandemic, Fellowship Wednesdays offered health checks, document recovery, fellowship, worship, and a hot meal.

The vision continues to provide a day center for the homeless.

Homeless teens are provided quick meals in all CFISD high schools; Upward Progress pays class fees, dual credit, graduation and extracurricular expenses. Scholarships are awarded to CFISD homeless graduates; two are studying at Lone Star College, one to become a firefighter, and the other, a nurse.

A third is at Texas A&M studying chemical or biomedical engineering.

Cards of Hope, \$50 WalMart gift cards, are currently being

collected for the holidays for homeless teens and their siblings. With the help of our community partners, 550 cards were gifted last year.

Compassion Bags for homeless clients are needed. (www.cyfairhelpinghands.org)

Community Outreach

The **Community Pantry** provides non-perishables and fresh food. A drive-thru food distribution ensures that volunteers and clients follow CDC guidelines. Volunteers register clients electronically, clients remain in their cars, and trunks are loaded with boxes of food and toiletries. Since March 17, 2020, we have fed nearly 20,000 individuals, and have distributed more than 75,000 pounds of food donated through the Houston Food Bank, and thousands more through community supporters. Our **Community Garden** supplements the pantry by providing fresh produce from 34 raised beds. This year, volunteers have harvested a ton of produce.

With the help of the community, Backpacks filled with school supplies were distributed to CFISD students, and to first year college students. Working with Owens and Hairgrove Elementary, and CFISD Children's Youth Services workers, (CYS), we were able to put backpacks into the hands of over 2,300 students in need across the district. To put this into perspective, 1,000 backpacks were distributed in 2019, and 450 in 2018.



This Holiday, *Keep Family Stories Alive*

by Jackie Devine

When you and your relatives gather to celebrate family, Thanksgiving and the Christmas holidays are the perfect times to capture memories and start creating a legacy that can be handed down for generations to come. But time is of the essence. Our mothers and fathers, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins leave us too soon.

Pull out your phone, place it on video, and start asking questions. If you need a list of questions, email me at jackiedevine@peelinc.com. I will send you a list of questions to ask your family and friends. I'll wager you will be surprised by the answers.

Please don't wait until it is too late like I did. Capture your family folklore before your living vault of information has disappeared.

To recreate my Grandmother's story, I had to interview scores of cousins I had not seen in decades. That was helpful, but I knew theirs wasn't the whole story. After researching the national archives, I stumbled upon long lost kin I had never met, and precious photos I had not seen. As a result, I created a priceless mini-biography of my Grandmother, which included family photos, memories, conversations she had with me over the years, and various precious documents. It remains available on the web for family members all over the world to retrieve.

For the last few years, several organizations have encouraged families to listen to one another and record family history. Two excellent organizations include:

StoryCorps, for example, launched The National Day of Listening. StoryCorps encourages everyone to ask elder family members to tell

stories at the Thanksgiving dinner table—memories that provoke more memories and stories. It's a beautiful way to connect older generations with newer ones and create a shared family tradition.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, StoryCorps Connect offers a first-of-its-kind platform that enables you to record a StoryCorps interview with a loved one remotely using video conference technology. The audio and a still photo from each interview goes into their archive at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

StoryWorth, located at <https://welcome.storyworth.com>, is another option that allows you to preserve your memories, connect your family, and learn about relatives in a new and exciting way. Once a week, they email your mother, dad, or grandparents a question, possibly about subjects you have never thought to ask. All they do is reply with a story that is shared with you each week. At the end of the year, the stories are compiled and bound into a beautiful keepsake book.

Please don't let another holiday pass without preserving your family's stories and life-lessons for future generations. When they are gone, your stories have vanished.

If you are not comfortable working with national forms and prefer something up close and personal, I will help you gather and compile your family's history. Contact me at jackiedevine@peelinc.com. And let me know that you are interested in taking a memoir writing class. If we have enough interest, I will make myself available free of charge for a 6-week memoir writing class in our community.



WORTHAM VILLAGES

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National Night Out



National Night Out's celebration was a little different this year, but just as effective in reaching out to people maintaining safe and strong neighborhoods.

Constable Mark Herman's Office participated in the 2020 National Night Out in the communities we serve. National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer and more caring places to live.

National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement, while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances and allows each to learn more about each other.

The men and women of your Precinct 4 Constable's Office love the communities we serve! Attached are pictures from this year's National Night Out events across Precinct 4. Thank you to all our citizens and deputies for making National Night Out a successful event!

Follow us at Facebook.com/precinct4 to receive live feeds on crime and arrests in your area.

National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. The state of Texas and select areas celebrate the first Tuesday in October. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are strongly recommending that all National Night Out 2020 areas celebrate on October 6th, the first Tuesday in October.

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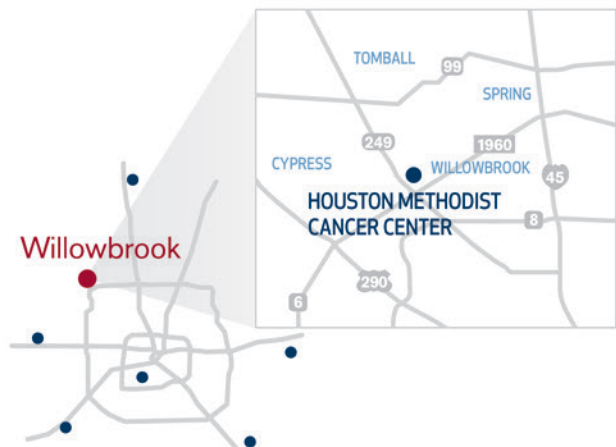
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Our nationally recognized specialists are finding new ways to outsmart cancer.

From screenings and diagnosis to the most advanced treatments, our leading cancer care is available at our Willowbrook location, which also serves the Cypress, Spring and Tomball communities. And, you can be confident that we are taking every necessary precaution to keep you safe — so you can focus on healing, surviving and thriving.

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