

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ Regularly scheduled meetings:
  - ◇ Regular Monthly Meeting: Thursday, October 10th
  - ◇ Regular Monthly Meeting: Thursday, November 14th
  - ◇ Regular Quarterly Meeting: Thursday, December 12th

See more about regularly scheduled meetings under “WWLOA Meetings” in this newsletter.
- ◆ Westwood LOA will once again this year be throwing a free haunted house this year. We have tentatively set the date for the Saturday before Halloween, October 26th. Prepare for even more thrills and chills this year!
- ◆ The office will be closed on the following days for holidays:
  - ◇ Thanksgiving: November 28th and 29th
  - ◇ Christmas: December 24th and 25th
- ◆ Keep an eye out in the next newsletter for updates on our holiday festivities!

## True or False? Westwood Edition

- ◆ True or False? July 1st, 2019 was the first time in over a year that all 5 board member seats were filled.
- ◆ True or False? There can be commercial lots on the interior of the subdivision.
- ◆ True or False? Westwood has one pool on each side of the subdivision.
- ◆ True or False? Each year, the Board of Directors meets to set the date of the last day of pool season.

## Answers:

- ◆ True! July 1, 2019 was the first time since February 21, 2018.
- ◆ True! The deed restrictions have designated several interior lots as residential OR commercial use.
- ◆ False! Sections 1 and 2, located between FM 1888 and FM 2978, has 2 pools (one on Oak Bluff Drive, the other on Nickaburr Creek Drive), and Sections 3 and 4 have 1 pool located on Lotus Lane. All three pools are available for use by all eligible landowners.
- ◆ False! Every year the pool season begins the Saturday after the last day of the Magnolia ISD school year and runs 7 days a week until the day before school starts again. The pools are then weekends-only until Labor Day weekend.

## A Message from The President

*“Greetings fellow Members of Westwood.*

*As you know Westwood is a great subdivision in which we all live, raise children, play with our Grandchildren, walk our dogs or ride bicycles around the neighborhood on narrow roads without sidewalks. Safety is very important to all of us and that brings me to the issue of speeding. An accident occurred in Section Three this month. It certainly appeared that speeding may have played a role. If someone had just happened to be walking their dog, at that time, in that place, it could have been much worse than it was. Our Constables that patrol our roads tell us that a large percentage of the people stopped for speeding in Westwood, are people that live in Westwood.*

*So, it turns out that we can do something about the speeding problem in Westwood – JUST STOP SPEEDING!!*

*Pat Troy, President*

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## Did You Know?

- ◆ Texas counties have no authority to regulate noise. While many Texas cities have adopted ordinances to regulate noise, Texas legislature has not given counties the authority to regulate noise in their unincorporated areas, such as Westwood subdivision. There is some hope, however. “When neighbors in unincorporated areas of the county disagree on appropriate times and volumes for noise, county residents’ may have legal recourse by contacting their local constable or sheriff’s office if the noise is so loud that it violates the state’s criminal statute.” [courtesy [www.mctx.org](http://www.mctx.org)]
- ◆ At our request, constables attend our open meetings unless they have official business that may take priority and call them away from being available.

Constables are present to:

- ◇ Provide security,
- ◇ Share general information and updates about our community,
- ◇ Give Public Service Announcements as needed,
- ◇ But perhaps most importantly, to be available for the landowners to ask questions as well as share concerns and comments.

While it is important that information be presented to landowners during meetings, meetings are also an opportunity for landowners to direct questions, comments or concerns to the board and/or the constables during the open forum period. Also, Quarterly Meetings are completely devoted to the members to bring up their questions, comments or concerns to the board and/or constables.

## Reminders

- ◆ If you are disabled or are 65 or older, you are eligible for having your annual maintenance fees frozen. Just come by the office with a document of proof such as a disability letter or driver’s license and we will be happy to ensure that your rate is locked in at the current rate.
- ◆ One of our landowners, Angella Veve, works closely with animal shelters in the Houston area to help rescue dogs and other furry friends. Something that shelters are always in need of are blankets for their bedding. If you have any old blankets, towels or sheets you’d like to get rid of, you can drop them off at the WWLOA office where Angella will stop by to pick them up and take them to shelters in need.
- ◆ Are you getting our emails? Yes you remember being subscribed, but when was the last time you saw an email from us? While it varies how often we send emails, you should be receiving an email from us at the very least once a month to notify you of that month’s meeting and the agenda. If you have subscribed, but haven’t received an email from us in a while, it could be because our email server has temporarily or permanently stopped delivering emails to your address. This sometimes happens when our emails can’t be delivered due to recurring full inboxes, your email’s domain no longer exists, or a number of other things. If you haven’t been receiving our emails and would like us to look into it, please call the office!

# Troop 1178 Magnolia Texas Premiere Martial Arts

## New Flag Subscriptions Start March 2020

**Flag or Boy Scout: Grades 6-12**

Contact: [bsatroop1178@gmail.com](mailto:bsatroop1178@gmail.com)

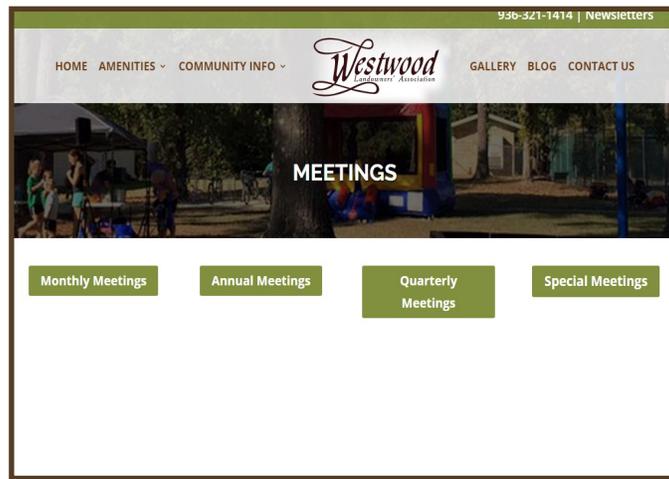
**Cub Scout: Grades K-5 Girls/Boys**

Contact: Brittanie 832-622-1312



## What's On The Website?

Each newsletter, we will be highlighting a different page of our website, [www.westwoodloa.org](http://www.westwoodloa.org), and its uses. This edition's webpage is Meetings. You can find the Meetings page by clicking on the Meeting tab on our home page. This should bring you to a page with four options: Monthly Meetings, Annual Meetings, Quarterly Meetings, and Special Meetings. Each of these options can be clicked to reveal an archive of past meeting Minutes and Agendas for each category. Meeting Agendas are posted, as required by the Bylaws, within 72 hours of the start of the meeting they pertain to. Meeting Minutes are considered and approved by the Board. They are posted as soon as possible after they are approved.



Website:

## Constable Corner

### A word from Sergeant Marshall Williams:

“Please remember that with school back in session, NEW drivers will be driving on their own—some for the very first time. Watch out for them, and for yourself, because you are the experienced driver. Also, school bus stops will be in a few new locations this year so be vigilant and aware of the big yellow bus and the red blinking lights.”

### A few additional reminders:

- ◆ Speed Limit is 25mph throughout the subdivision.
- ◆ If you see something, say something! Report all suspicious non-emergency activity to the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department at 936-760-5800. The Sheriff will dispatch an officer to respond to your call. **Remember, for emergencies always call 911.**
- ◆ From January 1st through July 31th, 2019, there were 398 traffic stops that resulted in a warning or citation. During this same time period there were 5 arrests in Westwood. All of which were performed by the constables under contract with Westwood LOA.

## Baked Mac and Cheese



recipe via: [www.bonappetit.com](http://www.bonappetit.com)

**If you have a favorite recipe you would like to see featured in future newsletters, let us know! Just contact the office and provide us with a copy of the recipe, a picture of the dish if you have one, and your name or whether you'd like to remain anonymous. If there's an interesting story or tidbit that goes with the recipe, we'd like to hear that too!**

## Ingredients

- ◇ 4 tablespoons unsalted butter, divided
- ◇ 3/4 cup panko (Japanese bread-crumbs)
- ◇ 1/4 ounce Parmesan, finely grated (about 1/4 cup)
- ◇ 2 teaspoons fresh thyme leaves
- ◇ 1 teaspoon kosher salt, divided, plus more
- ◇ 8 ounces cavatappi or other short curly pasta
- ◇ 2 1/2 cups whole milk
- ◇ 1/2 small onion, grated
- ◇ 1 garlic clove, finely grated
- ◇ 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- ◇ 4 ounces Fontina cheese, grated (about 1 cup)
- ◇ 4 ounces Gruyère, grated (about 1 cup)
- ◇ 4 ounces sharp white cheddar, grated (about 1 cup)
- ◇ 1/2 teaspoon English mustard powder (such as Colman's)
- ◇ Pinch of cayenne pepper

## Preparation

Preheat oven to 350°. Melt 2 Tbsp. butter in a medium skillet over medium heat. Add panko and cook, stirring, until crumbs are golden brown, 6–8 minutes (make sure to get them toasty brown; they won't darken much during baking). Transfer to a small bowl and toss with Parmesan, thyme leaves, and 1/4 tsp. salt.

Cook pasta in a large pot of boiling salted water, stirring occasionally, until al dente (the noodles will continue to cook in the cheese sauce, so take them out a minute or two before you think they're actually done). Drain pasta; let cool while you make the sauce.

Bring milk to a bare simmer in a small saucepan; keep warm. Melt remaining 2 Tbsp. butter in a medium saucepan over medium-high. Add onion and garlic and cook, stirring, until onions are fragrant and beginning to soften, about 2 minutes. Sprinkle flour over and cook, stirring constantly, until mixture starts to stick to bottom of saucepan, about 1 minute. Add warm milk in a few additions, whisking to combine after each addition.

Bring béchamel sauce to a boil, then reduce heat and simmer, stirring, until sauce is thickened and doesn't feel grainy when a little bit is rubbed between your fingers, 6–8 minutes (cooking the flour thoroughly at this stage ensures a creamy sauce). Add Fontina, Gruyère, cheddar, mustard powder, cayenne, and 3/4 tsp. salt and stir until cheeses are melted and sauce is smooth. Remove from heat and mix in pasta; transfer to a 2-qt. baking dish.

**HALLOWEEN**

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**HAUNTED HOUSE**

join us for thrills, chills, and free  
candy! it's spooky good fun.

# I Hit a Deer With My Car: What Should I Do Now?



**By Abigail Holmes,  
Texas A&M University WFSC '19**

If you are a Texas resident, you are likely aware of the prevalence of white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) and the threat they can pose to drivers in both rural and, increasingly, urban areas. According to the Texas Department of Transportation, wildlife in roadways caused 8,778 vehicle collisions in 2017. Many sources, such as this TPWD news release, can provide helpful tips on how to avoid deer collisions, such as braking firmly and resisting the urge to swerve your car. If you have no choice but to collide with a deer in the road, what steps do you need to take next? Below we address some of the most frequently asked questions following a deer collision:

## **Q: Who can I call to help with the situation?**

Of course, if there is a human injury, it is best to dial 911 immediately for assistance. If no harm was done to any passengers in the car, but the deer is injured or killed, the next step is to call a Texas game warden (or the warden for the state in which the crash occurred). There are two pathways to locate a TPWD game warden if you need assistance:

1. Call the county's sheriff department, as they serve as the radio dispatch for Texas game wardens.
2. Conduct an internet search to locate the local game warden and ask for assistance.

## **Q: What do I do if the deer is injured or dead?**

Once you have located a game warden, they will take the responsibility of determining if the deer has potential for rehabilitation by an approved Texas wildlife rehabilitator. If the deer is killed or cannot be rehabilitated, it is up to the discretion of the game warden to decide the fate of the deer.

## **Q: Can I take the carcass home for consumption or keep the antlers of a buck?**

No, it is unlawful to possess any part of a deer that has been hit by a motor vehicle.

## **Q: Should I file a crash report if there is damage to my car?**

If you intend to make an insurance claim, you will need law enforcement officials to fill out and submit a crash report, which can be obtained from the local police department or the Texas Department of Transportation.

Above all else, pay attention to the road ahead and keep an eye out for wildlife. Vehicle crashes involving deer occur on a daily basis in the rural areas of Texas, and are a growing concern for suburban areas, where deer numbers are rapidly increasing within the city limits. Staying alert and informed on how to handle potential crashes are the best possible ways to ensure safety for both drivers and wildlife on roadways.

## WWLOA Meetings

- ◆ Regular monthly meetings, open to all members, are held on the 2nd Thursday of each January, February, April, May, July, August, October, and November, in each year. An agenda is provided before the meeting. Meetings are held at 7:00 PM at the WWLOA office meeting room.
- ◆ An annual meeting of the members is held on the second Saturday of June in each year. Annual meetings are for electing Directors and the transaction of other business as may come before the meeting. The location and time for the annual meeting is posted in the agenda provided prior to the meeting.
- ◆ Quarterly meetings of the members are held on the 2nd Thursday of each March, September and December in each year. The quarterly members meeting is a time for all members of the WWLOA to come before the Board of Directors and bring up any concerns or topics that they want to discuss. Meetings are held at 7:00 PM at the WWLOA office meeting room.
- ◆ Special meeting of the Members may be called at any time by the majority vote of the Board, or by not less than one-tenth (1/10th) of the members. The location and time of special meetings is posted in the agenda provided prior to the meeting. Only the business stated or indicated in the agenda may be conducted at the special meeting.

## Contact Us

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## WHAT IS A LEUCISM?

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center



Every animal admitted to our Center is special and every one gets great care but occasionally we get one that is just a little different and very rare. This happened recently when a white baby squirrel was admitted. We posted pictures on our Facebook page and I, like others, wondered if it was an albino. Because the squirrel has dark eyes it is most likely leucistic. Leucism is a partial loss of pigmentation but the eye color remains unaffected. Albinism is a congenital disorder and the eyes would appear pink or red.

White squirrels are actually a mutation of the eastern gray squirrel. It is believed that white squirrels are the result of pet white squirrels that either escaped or were released into the wild. Brevard, North Carolina, seems to have the largest population of white squirrels and goes back to 1949 when a resident received a couple of them as gifts. They escaped and began breeding and now it's estimated that one in three squirrels in Brevard are white. They have become a tourist attraction and are celebrated every year during the White Squirrel Festival.

Another rarity is the black squirrel. Like the white squirrel, black squirrels are actually eastern gray squirrels with a genetic condition called melanism. This condition can occur in many species.

Regardless of the color, a squirrel is a squirrel and the color does not affect its behavior. Right now, squirrels are busy finding and storing food for the winter months. This behavior is called "caching." One interesting study published by the "Royal Society Open Science" says that squirrels actually organize their nut stashes by quality, variety and maybe even preference. Some scientists call this "chunking." The study's senior author, Lucia Jacobs, compared it to the way we organize our groceries, "You might put fruit on one shelf and vegetables on another. Then, when you're looking for an onion, you only have to look in one place, not every shelf in the kitchen."

In order to avoid predators, squirrels will zigzag back and forth. I think we've all seen squirrels trying to cross a street. Instead of running a straight line to safety, they will zigzag and the result often leads to an unhappy ending for the squirrel.

A squirrel's tail not only serves as a blanket in the cold days of winter but is also used as a way to communicate. It can warn other squirrels of danger, is used to help with balance and climbing and is also used during the mating season to attract potential mates.

Gray, brown, black or white, we love them and are fortunate to be able to care for fox squirrels, eastern gray squirrels and flying squirrels.

