



LAKES

ON ELDRIDGE

Volume 3, Issue 11
November 2004

www.lakesoneldridge.net

Annual Meeting Notes

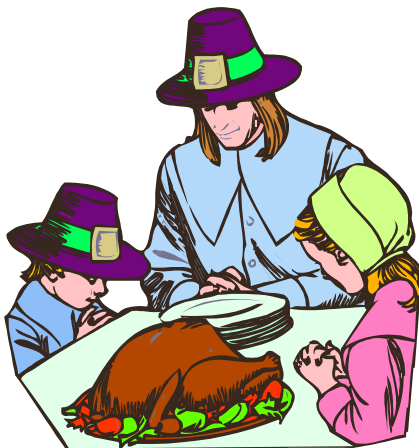
The annual meeting of The Lakes on Eldridge Community Association was held on September 22, 2004 at Kirk Elementary School.

Fifty three homeowners attended either in person or by proxy. Unfortunately, seventy five are required to constitute a quorum. As a result, we could not approve the minutes of last year's meeting nor could an election of directors be held.

There were two vacancies on the Board; my three-year term expired at the adjournment of the meeting and Jamie Powers, who had a year remaining on his, resigned effective October 1st. Five homeowners threw their hats into the ring to fill these spots. The Board decided that it would appoint, as the by-laws permit, the person receiving the most votes from those attending the meeting and by proxy to the three year term and the person receiving the second most votes to fill the one-year unexpired term. Lindsay Buchanan, as a result, was appointed to a three-year term and Clay Bronson to a one-year term.

There were a couple of reports given during the meeting. A rather extensive Chairman's Report is included in this newsletter. Following the formal part of the meeting, Board members answered questions and noted concerns of the homeowners in attendance.

Bob Trimble
President, LOE Community Association, Retired



LOE's Santa's Toy Drive

Friday, December 10th



Santa will arrive in LOE by Fire Truck on Friday, December 10th at 6pm. The truck will circle the lake a couple of times and then stop at the clubhouse. Santa has made his list and checked it twice and knows that the LOE children have all been nice!!! So bring your little ones over to take a picture with Santa and his fire truck. There will be hot chocolate, apple cider and Christmas cookies to share as well as other holiday activities.

We also want to help Santa share the magic of the holiday with needy children. So bring a new, unwrapped toy or nonperishable food item and get your picture with Santa for free or make a donation to this worthy cause.

If you would like to help with this event or want more details, please contact Michelle at 832-731-0943 or mperez51@houston.rr.com.

HAPPY
Thanksgiving
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AND ALL



Lakes on Eldridge

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(give pole # of street which is out)	
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LOE Board Of Directors

To contact a member of the Board of Directors, call Alex Taylor with AMI at 713-932-1122. Leave the number where you can be reached. Mr. Taylor will then forward your message to one of the following board members:

Bob Trimble	President
Nikki Favero	Vice President
Jim Wortsman	Secretary
Michelle Perez	Treasurer
Jamie Powers	At Large

Airport Noise

LOE is now in the flight pattern for both Intercontinental and Hobby Airports, which means air traffic has significantly increased. If you are concerned over the noise make a call to one or all of the numbers below. It is the number of calls and the people taking time to make them that make the most effective appeal for change for this situation.

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- Air Traffic Approach Number: 281 230-8441
- FAA Hotline: 1-800-255-1111

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Lakes On Eldridge Ladies' Bible Study

The Lakes On Eldridge Ladies' Bible Study is meeting every Tuesday from 9:30 to 11:30 AM at the Beach Club. Our first study is Christian author and speaker Cynthia Heald's Becoming a Woman of Freedom. The study addresses nitty gritty things that imprison us to bitterness, fear, anxiety, discouragement, and depression. Small groups use a study guide to work through Scriptures that help build faith and trust. Included in the small group meetings is a time for prayer requests where individuals who wish to ask for prayer can share concerns. A praise time precedes a short lecture on the subject of the day. The group goes to lunch at a nearby restaurant on the last Tuesday of the month.

If you would like to join the Bible study just come on over to the Beach Club on Tuesday mornings at 9:30. This study will run through November 30 and we will have a Christmas Celebration luncheon on December 7. A new study will begin in January 2005.

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*If you would like to submit an article or any information for the Lakes On Eldridge Newsletter, you may do so by sending the information in **Word Format, Courier New, size 10**, to mperez51@houston.rr.com. This information should include your name. All information should be received **no later than the 12th of the month** and is subject to editorial approval as well as space limitations.*



LAKEs

ON ELDRIDGE

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Lakes on Eldridge

Quest To Be Our Best.....Kirk Elementary 2004-2005

There's so much to celebrate at the little school house on Tanner Road, so get ready to do some reading. It's well worth the time, because your Kirk Tigers have been hard at work and hard at play for the past several weeks—broadening their horizons both academically and socially, developing into responsible, compassionate little people of whom we all can be extremely proud.

We probably are beaming the brightest over our first (and we hope, annual) Fall Festival, held on the school grounds October 2. This unique event combined fundraising with lots of family fun for students and faculty alike. Our amazing PTO devoted countless hours to coordinating the festival and appealing to numerous neighborhood businesses for support, and we couldn't be more pleased with the results. Despite a few rain sprinkles and an overcast sky, our Kirk families and friends filled the playground and enjoyed a carnival of games and activities, including several fantastic moonwalks (one in the shape of gigantic tiger, of course). Amidst live music, folks enjoyed the day, complete with wonderful food; a gift basket raffle; and a silent auction with fabulous items, all of which was made possible through the generosity of numerous volunteers, donors, and sponsors.

We encourage all Kirk families, friends, and neighbors to share their gratitude and support these wonderful sponsors:

Kids R Kids	Cole and Ashcroft
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The T.E.A.M. Approach	Re/MAX: David Flory, Teresa
Schouster, 1 st Community Credit Union	& Steve Hardcastle
Bank of Texas	The Vanderhider family

We also send a huge THANK YOU to the following businesses and families who donated items for our silent auction. They, too, deserve our steadfast support:

White Lightning Powersports	YMCA Clay Road
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Astroworld	Graebel Van Lines
Great Shapes Women's Gym	Jim Hardy
Kim Carroll	Mary Juppe
Chinois Bistro	Romero's Las Brazos
Gallery Furniture	About Hair
Mrs. Shirley Kirk	Coca Cola
Costco	

On the education front, the goal of our awesome Kirk staff this year is to nurture our students to think effectively and to discipline themselves in making important decisions. When faced with a problem or a challenge, how do you react? Our hope is to equip our Kirk Tigers with the skills to thoughtfully consider the choices they make everyday, whether in response to challenging school work; family issues; conflicts with friends; or any number of difficult situations. We want Kirk to be a "thought-full" place, where cooperation, compassion, and strong character are the first order of business.

On that note, we have continued our "Building Better Relationships" (BBR) program, in which we highlight a new character trait every six weeks. We began the school year focusing on "effort," and lots of our Tigers were seen sporting "E" stickers in recognition of having demonstrated extra effort in the classroom. We presently are concentrating on "responsibility." Our Kirk Tigers must learn the value of their promises and the importance of following through on commitments. Our students need to be responsible for their school work, as well as for any obligations they may have at home. Instilling a sense of responsibility early in life paves the way for an easier transition into the teen years and into adulthood. We encourage all parents to model these character traits and take time to praise your children when you see them doing the same.

(Continued on Page 5)

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Lakes on Eldridge

Kirk Elementary - (Continued from Page 4)

We have been a busy group since the last newsletter update. September included a visit from author Amy McDonald; Scout Rallies; Pizza Nights at Cici's and Dominoes; Skate Night; our fall fundraiser; school portraits; Art After School; a focus on Hispanic Heritage; a Fifth Grade food drive benefiting Bear Creek Assistance Ministries; and the kickoff for a new year of Destination ImagiNation, with participation now open to all grades!

October was equally busy with the continuation of after-school programs; our fabulous Fall Festival; the renewal of our Mentor program; the Scholastic Book Fair; the start of Junior Achievement; the Royal Reading Quest in which all students were challenged to read a total of 30,000 books (for the "prize" of having Principal Linda Jefferson sport a snazzy new hair color)—stay tuned for the results; a visit with our Second Graders from author Susan Crummel; our annual Pumpkin Patch fundraiser at Pecan's Grill; the availability of a new after-school option for interested students and families called the "Good News Club" sponsored by Child Evangelism Fellowship; and a wonderful evening program by our Fourth Grade P.E. students.

November looks to be just as busy with fundraiser deliveries; Jump Rope For Heart, benefiting the American Heart Association; pizza and skate nights; after-school programs; Exchange City Field Trip for our Fifth Grade Tigers; and Feast Days in celebration of Thanksgiving.

To say the least, Kirk Elementary is whizzing through another year and having a ball every step of the way. Our Kirk Tigers are strong and confident, and they have the unwavering support of an amazing faculty. We also have the invaluable support of our friends and business partners, who, together with our Kirk families, have created a truly wonderful neighborhood school. Go Tigers!

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Lakes on Eldridge

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Annual Meeting of The Lakes on Eldridge Community Association

September 22, 2004

Since our last annual meeting Lakes on Eldridge has seen several changes. On the positive side we have accomplished or in the process of accomplishing 5 of the 6 of the Board's key goals including which were set out at last year's meeting:

- One was to review the pool contract. This is done. A new pool company (Greater Houston Pool Management) who has helped us to maintain our pool and its environs cleaner and in better condition than in the recent past.
- Another was to improve access control. A new and professional access control contractor (ISSC) was hired and continues to receive compliments from our owners for its professionalism and for its consistent enforcement of our community's access control procedures. The Board also appreciates their professional and complete reports of gate related incidents. In addition, the Crime Awareness Committee, which was made up of homeowners, made a number of recommendations to the Board concerning access control. At the committee's suggestion, the gate closure times were reduced to minimize tailgating and we fenced off approximately 75' of open area along the eastern perimeter of the subdivision to eliminate a potential point of entry. In addition, the gate call box was relocated to provide more room at the entrance and avoid accidents that damage the call box and result in more "uptime" for the community's access control.
- The third objective was to establish a Communications Committee. Michelle Perez, a Board Member and head of our Communications Committee coordinated development and use of a true community website (www.lakesoneldridge.net) that will continue to adapt to changing needs. Please check it out and use it.
- The fourth goal was development of new Architectural Guidelines that apply more to homeowners than builders. The ACC – Lindsay Buchanan in particular – is to be commended for completing this very difficult task. The board is currently reviewing the guidelines and expects they will be adopted by the end of the year.
- The fifth goal was to reduce vandalism. As most of you know, we have seen ongoing vandalism of common and private property and abuse of wild fowl on our lakes. Our own neighborhood children are doing this and it has forced us to take steps we hoped would never be necessary. We have:
 - Installed enhanced surveillance of the Beach Club and pool areas to help avoid after hour's use/abuse.
 - Instituted a fining policy for unlicensed drivers and unlicensed vehicles on our streets or common areas (including motorized scooters, motorcycles, 4-wheelers, golf carts and the like).
 - Engaged a team of Sheriff's deputies to patrol the neighborhood on bicycles or in unmarked vehicles (this has already resulted in arrests and citations).
 - Offered rewards for information leading to the positive identification of those causing the vandalism or abusing the swans (local children have been seen shooting at swans with BB guns and hitting them with sticks).

- The sixth goal was to obtain new furniture for the beach house. This is still pending, mainly because of the costs involved. It is a subject, which is likely to receive some attention in next year's budget.

There were a number of other positive things which happened which we think you should know about.

- Our new landscape contractor (Landscape Images of Texas) has done a nice job and works closely with our Landscape Committee. We continue to receive positive feedback from homeowners for our new contractor's increased attention to detail.
- Due to the organization and efforts of the LOE Social Committee and involved LOE residents, an increasing number of social and community events have been held at the Beach Club and in people's homes including a Hawaiian luau party around the pool, a wine-tasting, a book club, a bible study, a July 4th celebration, a potluck dinner and other gatherings for our enjoyment. We hope this is a growing trend and that the Beach Club can become more of a social focus for our community.
- The Lakes and Wildlife Committee has worked hard to ensure that unwanted or aggressive wildfowl are removed from our lakes and that there is a pair of swans on each lake. The Committee has also worked toward achieving a duck population that stays on the water or water's edge as opposed to going into people's yards or their pools.
- A Gate Committee was established (Bob Adams, Chairman) to assist with oversight of the entry and exit gates and to help point out areas needing preventive maintenance and to take care of them before they become problems. This is important to access control because they are the first responders when there are problems with the gates.
- You can see at this time, the common area drainage is being improved courtesy of Ryko Development and M.U.D. 341. Nikki Favero was instrumental in getting Ryko and M.U.D. 341 to address these inadequate drainage issues in the common areas around our lakes.
- We have performed major pump repairs and replacements that have resulted in increased efficiency of our irrigation systems and longer lived pumps.
- We also got Centerpoint to install missing electrical meters and were able to light the remaining monuments at Lake Shore Estates as well as upgrading existing lighting around the community.

The Board also learned an important lesson this year...the need to stay abreast of what's going on in the local area outside our walls and, particularly, what our MUD and other local MUD's are up to. As you know, there is a lot of undeveloped land in our immediate area. Land to our east and south is controlled by the Corps of Engineers. The rest is in private hands, not subject to zoning restrictions and ripe for development. There were several events during the past several months which brought these areas into play.

(Continued on Page 8)



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Lakes on Eldridge

Chairman's Report - (Continued from Page 6)

First, our friends in Twin Lakes were surprised to learn that a CVS pharmacy was going to be built right next door to it on Eldridge. In the spring, we learned, a little late in the game, that the Neighborhood Storage facility across the street from us on Tanner had asked MUD #341 to annex the property with the purpose in mind of building a RV park. Nikki and I spent a great deal of time getting up to speed on this issue. Ultimately, the Board supported the MUD's annexation because it potentially gave us the ability to impose some restrictions on the operation of the facility. The developer decided, however not to go forward because the cost of annexation was too high. Last, Nikki learned from a friend in Twin Lakes, that Harris County wanted to expand Bear Creek Park and was in discussion with the Corps to that end. Again, she and I spent a lot of time finding out what was going on. Happily, this also appears to have quieted down. The Corps is apparently not very enthusiastic about the expansion and, importantly; environmentalists with some clout are into the mix. The moral here is clear; there are things going on outside our gates that impact the value of our homes and attractiveness of LOE as a place to live. To this end and as the result of the joint homeowners meeting held in July with LOEN, a committee is in formation which will act as our eyes and ears on external matters.

All of us came to Lakes on Eldridge to enjoy the peace and quiet of a gated community. Having controlled access offers us some protection from the outside but it is up to each of us as homeowners

and neighbors to be aware of what happens on our own streets and to report problems or suspicious activity to the Sheriff. It would also be very helpful if homeowners were to let AMI know about these types of problems

Looking forward, your Board plans to remain careful about expenses in order to continue building replacement fund levels. These are the monies set aside for future major expenses such as replacing the Beach House or guardhouse roof, replastering the pool (usually needed every 8-10 years), repairs to the roads, adding Beach Club furniture, etc. By having adequate reserves, we can simply write a check for these expenditures and not worry about having to borrow or levy special assessments. . Although this is a constantly changing process, we have a long range projection which tries to anticipate when major expenditures will be needed and hence avoid major changes in the assessment rate. This projection extends out twenty years to help highlight the general timing of potential major expenses and to project cash balances need in the reserve for the same timeframe.

We are also applying to for tax-exempt status to see if we can avoid having to pay sales or income taxes in the future. This application is a lengthy process and it may take a year or more before we receive a decision. However, if we succeed it will save upwards of \$50,000 or more each year.

One of the things that make a community like this one successful

(Continued on Page 9)

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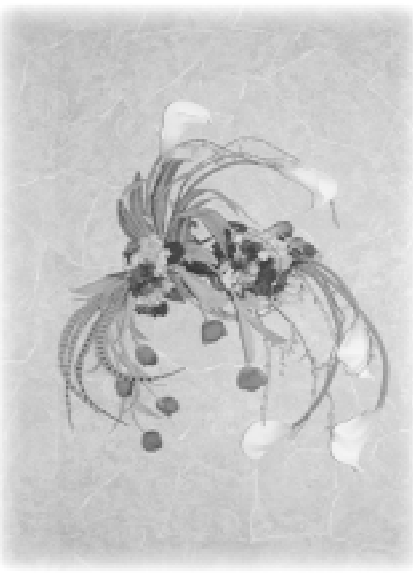
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Lakes on Eldridge

Chairman's Report - (Continued from Page 8)

is homeowner involvement. The community has had a swim team for several years. This past season, about 140 kids were involved and the team was once again undefeated. And we continue to encourage people to become involved in their community through committees, participating in social events and being good neighbors.

GOALS FOR 2005

There will be one new Board Member elected this year. My term is up and I have chosen not to stand for reelection. In addition, Jamie Powers announced recently his resignation from the board effective 10/1. We will talk more about filling his spot in a few minutes. But there is no doubt in my mind that the board will continue to maintain our course for 2005 and beyond as they work toward to following:

- We still need to put some decent furniture in the Beach Club.
- We will adopt and publish the new Architectural Guidelines.
- Vandalism continues to occur and we ask all of you to keep an eye out and report any problems you see. These vandals are spending YOUR money when other people have to be hired to clean up and fix up and patrol. The Board's stance continues to be that if any perp is caught the association will prosecute to the max and will determine if it can do the same to the vandal's parents. This is in addition to full restitution of costs. As examples we had to spend \$7,380.20 in 2003 and another \$11,190.60 so far in 2004 trying to

come to grips with vandalism. We know these kids live in our own neighborhood and that, with your help, they will be caught.

Now, on a personal note, I want to thank the Board and each of you for permitting me to serve on the Board these past three years. It has been an enjoyable and worthwhile experience. We have accomplished a great deal since we as homeowners took control of the Association and I expect that you will achieve a great deal more in the coming years. All of our directors are hard-working, smart folks who very much have the interests of LOE in mind. I think also we have been a really good team.

As some of you may know, Bunny and I are selling our home and moving back to the Dallas area to be closer to family and grandchildren. We have really enjoyed our time here in Lakes on Eldridge and wish you all the very best.

Advertising Information

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Lakes on Eldridge Newsletter. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Lakes on Eldridge residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. No homeowners association funds are used to produce or mail the newsletters. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales representative, Donna Sommer @ 832-237-4684 or at dsommer@peelinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 10th of each month for the following month's newsletter.



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*Have A Safe &
Happy Thanksgiving!*



Lakes on Eldridge

Book Club

Members have decided to start meeting in a member's home each month. We will still get together the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M. call or e-mail Celeste Fritz, 713-896-6942, cfritztx@houston.rr.com for the location and directions. Discussion is usually led by the person who nominated the selection for the month.



November 18th (a week earlier because of Thanksgiving)-The Sins of the Wolf by Anne Perry Private investigator William Monk's trusted accomplice, Nurse Hester Latterly, is on trial for her life. She stands accused of murdering a wealthy patient, and Monk must race to Scotland to find the truth before she swings. One again, Anne Perry delivers a taut, enthralling blend of courtroom thriller and complex, compelling whodunit.

"Perry's superb historical crime stories have garnered rave reviews and critical acclaim...Perry's rich prose and splendidly authentic renderings of the dress, manners, dialogue, and customs of mid-nineteenth century London, combined with a mesmerizing courtroom drama, a plot that's filled with surprising twists and unexpected suspense, and the unlikely but appealing team of Monk and Latterly make this one her best yet," Emily Melton, Booklist.

We will not be meeting during the month of December because of the holidays.

CLASSIFIEDS:

For Sale: Leather (oxblood) sofa, loveseat, chair and ottoman. \$2900. Moving. Older dinette set. \$75. 713-896-9442. msmbarzyk@earthlink.net. Pick up only.

Lost Cat: Named Pawer. Grey/brown tabby, male, 2 years old, short hair, lost from Eden Springs. He was last seen on Tuesday morning 10/11/04. He is exceedingly friendly and will enter garages uninvited so may be shut in somewhere. He has also been known to jump into cars if doors or windows are left open! If anyone has seen him at all PLEASE contact Clare - 832 467 3669. 5638 Ivory Mist Lane. He was wearing a collar with a phone number and he is microchipped as he regularly sheds his collar.

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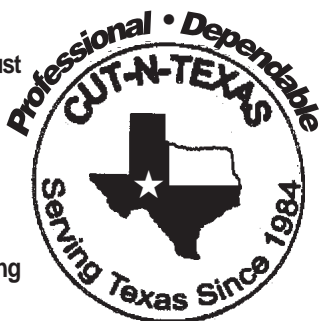
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Lakes on Eldridge

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School

Blessing of the Pets

Monday, October 4th, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School celebrated their Annual Blessing of the Pets. Students, faculty, parents, parishioners and pastoral staff gathered around the St. Francis of Assisi statue to participate in the blessing. Students were able to bring their family pets from home and have them blessed. It is always a fun day for the whole St. Elizabeth Ann Seton community. Father Bob, Father Ed and Father Quang all participated in the blessing. What great pastoral support for the students and their pets. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Community love their pets unconditionally as God loves us unconditionally.



LOE Merry Stitchers

Do you like to knit, crochet, embroidery, crewel, counted cross stitch or perhaps you prefer tatting, quilting or needle point? Maybe hooking rugs is your thing? If you enjoy any type of stitching / sewing (or just need to do some hemming or alterations) and would like to join a like-minded group who meet to sew, share ideas and socialize, then come along to our "LOE Merry Stitchers".

It isn't about what kind of stitching you like to do. It's about getting together and sharing the passion for sewing and this opportunity is open to anyone who wants to make friends with others and join in the fun of saying "I made it myself!"

So, if you are interested in starting this group, please call Catherine Spelling at (713) 896-1652 or 713-628-7083 or email catherinespelling@msn.com. Once you have contacted Catherine, times and dates will be set aside to meet at the clubhouse to socialize and work on the needle work of your choice. And don't worry; this group has no fees or obligations for attendance. We just want to get together and have some fun.

We look forward to hearing from you.



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Lakes on Eldridge

Get To Know Grace School!

Please join us for coffee and conversation
Tuesday, November 16, 2004
8:15 AM to 9:30 AM
Lesli Higginbotham's home (LOEN)
5914 Caddo Terrace

Joining us will be Suzanne Todd, Head of School,
Elaine Brill, Director of Admissions
and Mary Ann Benoche, Head of Early Childhood School

If you have any questions, please call Lesli at 713-849-0787
or e-mail at lsziggy@sbcglobal.net

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St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School Public Announcements

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Community aims to be a parish where ordinary people help each other connect everyday life with faith on a regular basis. Located at 6646 Addicks - Satsuma Road, Houston, Texas 77084.

October 16th through October 22nd
Book Fair
School Library 8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

November 11th @ 10:00 A.M.
Annual Veteran's Day Ceremony
CLC Hall

January 26th
Open House 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. and 6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

New Family Registration
February 22nd
School Office

If you have any questions, please call Kathy Carter at 281-558-0102

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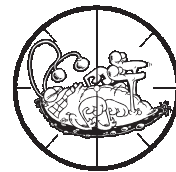
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Need To Post A Sign??

Every now and then you need to get information to the community in a quick manner.

You type up your sign and tape it to the gates. It usually rolls or folds back because it is not very secure. Then when you are done, more than likely, there is tape residue left on the gate. Not a very pretty sight.

So here is a somewhat better solution. There will be black magnetic clips, and small poster board donated at the guardhouse. Type up your sign as usual, drop by the guardhouse, tape your sign to the poster board, and pick up 4 clips for each sign that needs to be posted. Use the clips at each corner of your sign and magnetically adhere to the gates. It's less messy, looks prettier and gives us a uniform style of posting information. When you are finished, please return all clips to the guardhouse.

If you need help typing up a sign, you can contact Michelle at 832-731-0943. If you would like to donate some clips or poster board, drop off at the guardhouse. (clips should be the black magnetic kind)

Also, get your information to the Webmaster to post your information on our website. See article about website for information.

Pumpkin Cake Roll

3 eggs	2 tsps. cinnamon
1 cup granulated sugar	1 tsp. ginger
2/3 cup pumpkin	1/2 tsp. nutmeg
1 tsp. lemon juice	1/2 tsp. salt
3/4 cup flour	1 tsp. baking powder
1 cup finely chopped walnuts	powdered sugar

Beat eggs on high speed for 5 minutes. Gradually beat in sugar. Stir in pumpkin and lemon juice. Stir together flour, baking powder, cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg, and salt. Fold into pumpkin. Spread in greased and floured 15 x 10 x 1" pan. Sprinkle with the finely chopped walnuts. Bake at 375 ° for 15 minutes. Turn out onto a towel which has been sprinkled with powdered sugar. Starting at narrow end, roll. Cool.

Filling

1 cup powdered sugar	4 tablespoons margarine
2 - 3 oz. pkgs. cream cheese	1 1/2 tsp. vanilla

Beat smooth. Spread over cooled, unrolled cake. Roll and chill. Slice. Very good and keeps well in refrigerator!

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Lakes on Eldridge

Cypress Assistance Ministries

Community Buck(s) Donations

Holidays, Special Days and Everyday, we need your support. The following is a brief outline of how you may contribute to Cypress Assistance Ministries. We look forward to your visiting our facilities and hope that we will continue to do God's work together.

Angel's Attic Christmas Room Opening

A Holiday Tradition at Cypress Assistance Ministries is the opening of Angel's Attic, "Christmas Room". Shoppers eagerly look forward to the vast accumulation of donated Christmas decorations, clothing and super gift items. Mark your calendar for November 1st at 10:00 a.m. Funds received through the resale shop are utilized throughout the ministry to give assistance to those in need in the Cypress-West Houston area.

Food Pantry Needs

It is official; we are planning Thanksgiving and Christmas at the ministry. Due to the increased number of families in 2004, our demands will be strained like never before. Turkeys and hams are especially needed, as well as other meat products. Your monetary donations are always welcomed too. Money spent at the Food Bank allows us to buy \$20 for every \$1 spent. If your church, company or special group is looking for a way to celebrate this holiday season, or you need information about our programs, now is the time to start planning. Please give us a call at 281-955-7684.

Angel Tree

Each year we invite the people of Cypress-West Houston to participate in our Angel Christmas Tree. Families with special needs and their children are depending on this ministry. We offer a selection of needs (Angels) so that you may choose how you wish to help. We hope you will come in and visit our Angel Tree, adopt an Angel(s) and start your Christmas spirit early.

Visit 'Lakes on Eldridge' Website and 'Be Informed!'

WEBSITE FEATURES...

1. Read Your Community news and the approved minutes of the Board Meetings
2. Be Informed of Upcoming Events in your community
3. View or download your Governing Documents
4. View Alerts
5. Utilize the Classifieds to buy, sell or exchange items
6. Download important forms from the Links section

Before you register, please obtain your password from your webmaster by calling 713-984-7252.

GETTING STARTED

1. Visit www.lakesoneldridge.net (Please bookmark this page for your future visits)
2. You can register (by clicking on 'Member Section'). While registering, you will be asked the community password. Type in the community password you obtain from your webmaster.
3. After completing the registration process, you may browse the website.

If you require any assistance with the community website, please contact your webmaster 713-984-7252.



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Lakes on Eldridge

Check Out The Events At The Center For The Arts

"In/Wetland," a unique indoor and outdoor exhibition of guest artist Jennifer Vanderpool, will be featured through Nov. 17. The Fall 2004 Cy-Fair College Student Exhibition will run Nov. 18 through Dec. 1. For information, call 281-290-5273. "A Taffetas Christmas" will be presented in the Black Box Theatre Nov. 18 through Dec. 12. For music lovers, Cy-Fair College and Langham Creek students will perform Faure's Requiem Nov. 5 and a holiday concert with a plethora of performers and music styles is set Dec. 3. For tickets call 281-290-5201.

Cy-fair College Continues Fall Film Series

Join Cy-Fair College professors and student organizations as they host free films and discussions held at the Barker Cypress campus and Fairbanks Center. The film series is part of an effort to promote cultural activities on campus. Among some of the upcoming features are "Salt of the Earth Nov. 4, "Not One Less" Nov. 16 and "City of God" Dec. 2, all at Barker Cypress, and "Beijing Bicycle" Nov. 1 and "Hera Pheri" Nov. 18 at the Fairbanks Center. Go to www.cy-faircollege.com or contact Robert O'Brien by phone at 281-290-3257 or e-mail at robert.obrien@nhmccd.edu for information.

Library Features Cy-Fair History Display

The Cy-Fair College Branch Library staff is seeking community input for a Cy-Fair History Display which will be on exhibit Nov. 15 to Nov. 30. Display organizers request area residents to loan copies or original Cy-Fair photos, journals, letters, church/business histories, small tools/utensils, clothing, games and other family memorabilia from 1800 to 1940. Children ages 3 to 17 can provide input with a picture they draw of their Cy-Fair area home, apartment, backyard or room. All entries need to be on 8 1/2" X 11" paper and all entries must be received by Nov. 7 to be included in the Cy-Fair History Display. For entry information, call Susan Green at 281-290-3242 or Monica Norem at 281-290-3244 or send an e-mail to cyfairlibrary@nhmccd.edu.

"Most Likely to...Fail?"

Can Children pass at school and fail in life? Happens all the time. They also fail/fail. But they have LOTS of help! Divorce, Neglect and/or Abuse are their home surroundings. If you have a beating heart, you have the tool to make a difference in their life at a cost of as little as 30 minutes per week. Become a School Mentor! Call Jan Needham at 281-807-8604 or Ray Ramer at 281-376-4740. E-mail Addresses are jan.needham@CFISD.net and reraimer@cs.com.

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Lakes on Eldridge



Northwest Harris County Aggie Mothers' Club

November 8, 2004 - Second Tuesday of the month

Your Aggie's memories last a lifetime. So true yours, as an Aggie Mom. Please join the Northwest Harris County Aggie Mothers' Club for an evening of fun and camaraderie making your very own 'memory' page, note card, or frame. It's a great way to socialize with our new 'Fish Moms' and allows them the opportunity to learn more about us too!

Our meetings begin with a brief social at 7:00p.m. at the Foundry Methodist Church, in the Fellowship Hall, 8350 Jones Road, Jersey Village (one block North of Hwy 290)

For more information or carpool possibilities please call:
Mary Vargo at: 281-433-3042
E-mail – mkvargo1@juno.com

December 14, 2004 – Second Tuesday of the month

With Christmas right around the corner, you will definitely need an evening of fun, laughter, and relaxation. Please join the Northwest Harris County Aggie Mothers' Club for their annual 'Ornament Exchange' party. Please bring an "Aggie-ized" ornament (if you can write anything 'Aggie' on it or if it's Maroon then it's "aggie-ized"!)

Our meetings begin with a brief social at 7:00p.m. at the Foundry Methodist Church, in the Fellowship Hall, 8350 Jones Road, Jersey Village (one block North of Hwy 290)

For more information or carpool possibilities please call:
Mary Vargo at: 281-433-3042
E-mail – mkvargo1@juno.com

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Deadline for submitting ads is the 10th of each month for publication in the following month's newsletter. Please contact Donna Sommer, 832-237-4684, dsommer@PEELinc.com for information on advertising.

Business Classifieds are \$45.00. Please contact Donna Sommer, dsommer@peelinc.com, 832-237-4684.

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Pilgrim Cap Place Cards

What you'll need:

3 inch terra-cotta flowerpots

Craft foam: black, yellow, green and purple

Scissors

Acrylic paints in black, white, red, green, and blue

Thick white craft glue; black fabric paint pen



Paint the entire pot black and allow it to dry. Choose a color to paint the band around the top of the pot. Let it dry. Make white dots on the rest of the pot by dipping the handle of a paintbrush in white paint and dotting on to the surface.

Cut a circle from black foam. Cut it about ½ inch wider all around than the pot opening. Use an appropriate size dish, cup or lid to trace. Place a small amount of glue on the rim of the pot and glue onto the black foam circle.

To make the buckle, measure the width of the band of the pot (the portion painted a different color). Cut a rectangle out of foam that measures about 1/8 inch deeper than the band on the pot. Glue it to the band. Let the glue dry.

Use a black paint pen to write the guest's name on the colored band. Allow it to dry before using.

Happy Thanksgiving!



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School Anxiety Can Make Kids Sick

Baylor College of Medicine

Is school making your child ill? Frequently wanting to stay home "sick" from school could be a sign of school anxiety, says a psychiatrist at Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) in Houston.

"Complaining to the point where the kids do not want to go to school is a telling sign of school anxiety," said Dr. Jacqueline McGregor, assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences with the Menninger Department of Psychiatry at BCM. "This can be resolved pretty quickly depending on how parents handle it."

According to McGregor, the most important thing is to get these kids back in the classroom.

"The longer kids are out of school, the harder it is for them to go back," said McGregor. "Anxiety can become more ingrained the longer you put it off, but the sooner kids face their fears, the sooner they will overcome the anxiety."

To help a child become more comfortable with school, McGregor suggests the following approaches:

- * Schedule play dates with other students.
- * Reward children for their independence.
- * Role-play anxiety-causing scenarios.
- * Teach children relaxation techniques.
- * Speak candidly about problems at school.
- * Establish daily rituals.

School anxiety often develops from conflicts with teachers or bullies, but according to McGregor, learning, hearing or vision problems also could be culprits.

No matter the source, anxiety can spur physical discomfort including headaches, nausea and vomiting. To be safe, parents should have their child evaluated by a physician if complaints of illness persist, said McGregor.

"If school anxiety continues to impact a child's functioning and enjoyment of life, parents may want to consult with a mental health professional to investigate additional approaches."

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A New Law Changes The Way Checks Clear

Check it out. A new law is changing the way banks clear checks. The legislation-known as the Check Clearing for the 21st Century Act, or Check 21-will benefit consumers through faster check clearing, decreased fraud, less paper and increased security.

The law makes it possible for banks to send-and accept for clearing purposes-digital images of checks electronically. This eliminates the need to physically transport checks between banks.

As an added benefit, Check 21 will reduce uncontrollable delays in transporting checks caused by weather or natural disasters.

According to the American Bankers Association, the law does not eliminate paper checks, nor does it change the way consumers write checks. It simply requires banks and customers to accept paper copies of original checks, called "substitute checks."

A "substitute check" is a paper copy of the original check, including the front, back and all endorsements.

Supporters of this law say that consumers will benefit. Here's why:

- They'll have earlier access to their funds and more convenient access to information online about the status of their checks,
- Check fraud will be reduced because faster processing will mean faster detection and faster resolution of problems,
- Consumers receive special recrediting rights if a problem arises due to a "substitute check."

One caution: with faster processing, consumers must ensure they have enough money in their account to cover their checks.

In addition to the changes brought on by Check 21, a growing number of retailers are now converting paper checks into electronic automated clearinghouse (ACH) payments on the spot. This means that if a consumer has written a check for a purchase, the check is returned immediately at the point of purchase, after it is converted into an ACH payment.

Regular billers, such as utilities or credit card providers, are also converting checks to ACH payments. Once the check is converted, a consumer will not receive a copy of the original. However, the check will be reflected in the consumer's bank statement, which will be accepted as proof of payment.

To learn more, visit the America Bankers Association at www.aba.com and click on "Consumer Connection."

Experts say a new law will reduce fraud and paperwork by speeding the check-clearing process.



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With the holidays right around the corner, give yourself a break and register early for spring classes. Early registration kicks off November 9. Registering early saves you time in line, provides a better opportunity to get the class you want before it's full and will be less stressful than the last-minute rush in January.



Online registration starts November 9
On-site registration begins November 15

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The Fairbanks Center
a satellite location
14955 Northwest Freeway
Houston, Texas 77040
832.782.5000

Online registration available.
www.cy-faircollege.com

Affirmative Action/EEC College

Teenage Jobseekers

The following young people are interested in making a little extra money. If you would like to be included, removed, or updated in the next issue, please contact Michelle Perez, mperez51@houston.rr.com. All information must be received by the 10th of the month.

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George, 16	713-467-0932(LOE)
Delania, 13	713-849-2812(LOE)
Gabby, 16***	713-849-4596(LOE)
Chelsea, 19	SUMMER ONLY ... 713-983-7252(LOE)
Chinyere, 14	713-856-9495(LOE)
Jessica, 17	713-849-3692(LOE)
Katie, 16	713-896-7941(LOEN)
Patrick, 14	713-937-0727(LOE)
Ryan, 14	713-896-794(LOEN)
Kelechi, 13	713-856-9495(LOE)
Benny, 12	713-476-3750(LOE)
Jared, 17	832-467-9336(LOE)
Ryan, 17	832-243-9893(LOEN)
Katherine, 15**	832-243-9893(LOEN)
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Erica, 12	713-937-1383(LOEN)
Brianna, 10	713-937-1383(LOEN)
Katie, 17	713-983-7717(LOE)
Thomas, 11	713-856-7372(LOEN)
Steven, 14	713-856-5666(LOEN)
James, 16	713-466-8298(LOEN)
Courtney, 12	713-493-0288(LOEN)
Tom, 14	713-466-6878(LOE)
Elisse, 16	713-896-9495(LOEN)
Leslie, 11**	832-467-4842(LOEN)
Erika, 12**	713-856-7192 (LOE)
Greta, 19	713-896-4170 (LOEN)
Billy, 19	713-896-9495 (LOEN)
Joe, 18	832-876-4191

*First Aid Certified with Boy Scouts

** Red Cross Babysitting Program

***Fluent in Spanish

Beginner Swim Instructor

Katie, age 16 713-896-7941 (LOEN)

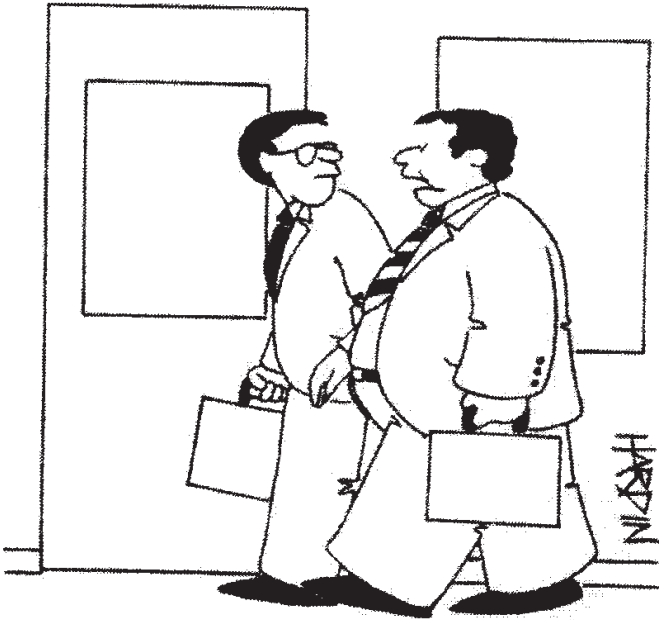
Piano Lessons

Idil, age 15 713-896-1833 (LOE)

Guitar Lessons

Katherine, 15 ** 832-243-9893 (LOEN)

Lakes on Eldridge



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