

# The Ranch Review

www.riataranch.net

November 2006

Volume 1, Issue 9

Official Publication of Riata Ranch Homeowners Association

## BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Saturday, December 9

9 to 11 A.M.

Santa is coming to Riata Ranch on December 9!

Please join Santa for breakfast and pictures from 9 to 11A.M. Saturday morning at the Kids R Kids Gym. Kids R Kids has been very generous to let us use their facility for this holiday event, so no need to worry about the weather. Santa will be there for picture taking, so please bring your camera to get that special shot. The Kids R Kids address is 10740 Barker Cypress (right in front of Riata Ranch). The Special Events Committee wants to share the holiday spirit with all in the neighborhood, so this year we will also have caroling during the evening of December 9. We will meet at the pool at 6:30P.M., so that everyone can ride on trailers thru the neighborhood. The map will be given out at Kids R Kids during the morning event. Hope to see you there!



## A Renewed Focus on Reducing Speed in Riata Ranch - UPDATE

Feedback from our residents has prompted us to coordinate with Officer Rick and ask that he step-up focus on speeding in our community. He, and the other officers have answered our request. Officer Rick has been seen addressing the speed demons in our community, but the battle continues.

The goal is to keep the streets safe for all of us, so if you received a citation, we hope you also received the message. For those residents who have asked for this effort, we hope you are seeing the improvement.

In addition to this effort, we are working to place speed limit signs near the entrances in an effort to make it clear that the speed limit is 30 MPH within Riata Ranch.

Also, we have asked Officer Rick to help coordinate more observations on Friday and Saturday nights, a timeframe in which we are still experiencing problems.

So please, drive safely and observe the speed limit.

## PROGRESS!!!

### Riata Ranch Boulevard Parking Problem

We are happy to report that, after our letter to Commissioner Radack was received at Precinct 3, action by the County was taken to help resolve the parking issue on Riata Ranch Boulevard and Vaquero Way. "NO PARKING" signs have been placed at the intersection on both sides of the street to help eliminate blind spots.

We are glad that we have received this response and wish to thank all of you for your patience. We believe these signs are a good "first step" towards a larger parking solution.

Tenacity pays off, and your Board is committed to fighting these type of issues with the best interest of the entire community in mind. Although resolutions do not always come as fast as we like, we are patient and resolute.

So, if you are one of those parking on the street by the park – PLEASE STOP! Now, it is not only unsafe, but it is illegal. Officer Rick has already begun handing out violations. He has been with us through this entire process and knows what we all have had to put up with, so there is little chance that he will give any breaks.

We need the help of all of those involved to keep the park and surrounding area a fun and safe place to be.

## HAVE YOU NOTICED?

As promised, our next major painting project has begun. The IRON FENCING along the greenbelt is being repainted.

As committed, with a balanced budget, more can be done. And this is the first stage of a 3 stage project that will include the repainting of iron fencing in section 11 and fencing that borders the golf course.

We continue to execute on our commitments to you and hope you are noticing and enjoying the improvements.

View *The Ranch Review*  
each month on-line at  
[www.PEELinc.com](http://www.PEELinc.com)

# Riata Ranch

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### Emergency

Sheriff.....713-221-6000  
 Fire Department .....281-855-1110  
 Cy-Fair Medical Center .....281-890-4285  
 Memorial City Hospital .....713-932-3000  
 Poison Control .....800-222-1222

### Schools

Cypress Fairbanks ISD .....281-897-4000  
 Posta Elementary .....281-345-3660  
 Spillane Middle .....281-216-1645  
 Cy-Fair High .....281-897-4600  
 Cy-Falls High.....281-856-1000  
 Cy-Fair College.....281-290-3200

### Utilities

HCMUD #196  
 Billing .....281-579-4500  
 Repairs .....281-398-8211  
 Centerpoint Electric .....713-207-2222  
 Centerpoint Entex Gas .....713-659-2111  
 AT&T/SBC .....800-464-7928  
 Warner Cable.....713-462-9000  
 Waste Mgt .....713-686-6666  
 HOA, SCS Mgt .....281-463-1777  
 United States Post Office .....800-275-8777

### Library

Cy-Fair College Library.....281-290-3210

### Newsletter Publisher

Peel, Inc.....888-687-6444  
 Advertising..... advertising@Peelinc.com, 888-687-6444

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## From The Residents.....

Often, we receive input from our residents, and almost every time the input turns into an article. This time around, one of the submissions identified a really good website that can help protect us from a very bad element. I couldn't explain it any better than the resident did, so here is an excerpt from the email:

"I would like to know if you can place this information in the next Ranch Review, I'm sure the residents will find this information useful.

This is an excellent site for law enforcement and civilians as well. We should know about these predators and be on the look out for them around our children and grandchildren!

It is <http://www.familywatchdog.us>

When you visit this site you can enter your address and a map will pop up with a small icon of a house. Surrounding your house you will see red, blue, and green dots covering your entire neighborhood.

When you click on one of these dots, a picture of a person will appear with an address and the description of the crime he or she has committed.

This site was developed by John Walsh from Americas Most Wanted.

Consider this just another tool to help us keep ourselves and our families safe."

## The Fairfield Handyman

Need Help Getting Those *Honey-To-Do* Lists Completed?

**NO JOB IS TOO SMALL !**

John Haushalter  
 Fairfield Resident

Call **The Fairfield Handyman** at  
**281-304-7837**



## Choose & Cut Your Own Christmas Tree

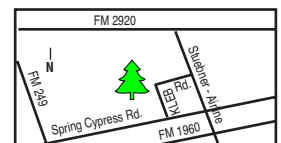


**Old Time  
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 9AM - 6PM

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**For more info. & directions: [www.oldtimechristmastree.com](http://www.oldtimechristmastree.com)**

## DID YOU KNOW??

If you are interested in communicating with the SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE, you can post a message to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/riataranchevents/>. The GROUP site is monitored by the committee and is a great way to volunteer, make suggestions or give feedback to the committee.

## Deed Restriction Activity

As this edition of the newsletter goes to print, October Deed Restriction Summary is not yet available, so I thought I would provide the latest summary, which is September. You'll notice that the MOW LIST numbers spiked as we took aggressive action and force mowed those who refused to respond to less aggressive requests to address their lawns.

The Board receives many complaints regarding unkempt yards. Although we will not discuss specific actions being taken, we will continue to share this summary so that you can have a sense of the work being done behind the scenes.

Still, we request your continued feedback. The most up-to-date list available is always posted to the FORMS, DOCS, LINKS section of [www.riataranch.net](http://www.riataranch.net) and is listed as VIOLATIONS.

In September, there were 251 violations opened, 121 cleared, and 17 lawns that were "force mowed." In addition, legal action is being taken in 6 cases.

Please continue to communicate with us through the CONTACT US section of the web site. We hope these numbers show that you are being heard and action is being taken.

## ATTENTION - SPECIAL EVENTS CHANGE:

Attention Residents..... The Special Events Committee has decided to change the Fall Frolic to the Spring Fling. The fall is such a busy time of year, and to maximize the attendance we thought this change would benefit the neighborhood, as well as our committee. If you have any questions or comments, we would be glad to address them. Please contact us via the website.

Riata Ranch H.O.A., Inc.		Report Date:	
Inspection Date: Thursday, September 14, 2006		09/14/2006	
<b>Deed Restrictions</b>			
<b>Open Violation Summary</b>			
<u>Status of Logged Violations:</u>		<u>Violations Logged:</u>	
Verify Reported Violation	0	ACC	16
First Letter	116	Clean-Up	57
Second Letter	25	Lawns	126
Certified Letter	0	Repairs	7
Mow List	17	Vehicles	22
Continuous Mow	0	Misc.	23
Monitor	20		<b>251</b>
Monitor After Letter	53		
Board Referral	3	<u>Property Counts:</u>	
Hearing Requested	0	Mow List	17
Board Hold	0	Board Referral	3
Notice of Non-Compliance	5	Board Hold	0
Attorney Letter	4	Attorney Letter	4
Attorney Lawsuit	3	Attorney Lawsuit	2
Judgment	0	Judgment	0
Request More Time	4	Brd Stat Update Needed	1
Board Status Update Needed	1		
<b>Total open violations</b>	<b>251</b>		
<u>Violations Cleared</u>		<b>121</b>	
<b>Activity Summary</b>			
Activity since Prior Inspection August 10, 2006			
First Notice Letters	107	Notice of Non-Comp	5
Second Notice Letters	21	Attorney Demand Letters	0
Renter Letters	16	Attorney Lawsuits	0
Thank You Letters	0		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>149</b>
PLEASE PROCESS BOARD REFERRAL LIST AT EACH MEETING AND RETURN TO SCS.			
SUGGESTIONS FOR PROCESSING:			
1. Leave nothing unprocessed at BOARD REFERRAL; move at least to BOARD HOLD.			
2. Leave nothing on BOARD HOLD indefinitely; at least RECYCLE (RC) back to notice letters if stronger action not merited.			
3. NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE (NNC) is required by law before attorney fees are incurred and recovered. This displays for your information.			
4. If a violation appears on this report, then every open violation for this property will also be printed for your information.			



## Street Light Out?

Don't drive around in the dark! Report it. It's easy. Just call 713-207-2222 and list the following:  
The pole number, which is stenciled on the pole  
The nature of the problem; completely out, flickering, etc. Location of the pole, such as the nearest street corner.



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[www.lazerx-cypress.com](http://www.lazerx-cypress.com)

# Riata Ranch

## Vacation Watch

At your request, the Harris County Sheriff's Department will put your house on VACATION WATCH. Just go to [www.riataranch.net](http://www.riataranch.net) and look for the Vacation Watch form in the FORMS and DOCS section.

Your completed form will need to be submitted to the Sheriff's Department 7 days prior to departure, or just call 713-221-6000.

## Do you have a Home Based Business right here in Riata Ranch?

You can get information about your service or products to every home in Riata Ranch, by running a business classified in The Riata Ranch HOA Newsletter. It is a great way to get your name and contact information to many potential customers in your neighborhood. The cost is \$45 for up to 40 words. Display ads are also available. For more information, please contact Peel, Inc. at 888-687-6444 or [advertising@PEELinc.com](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com). The deadline is the 10th of each month for the upcoming month's newsletter.



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832-220-1900

\*Call Clinic for Details

## HELPFUL TOOLS on RIATARANCH.NET

On our website, under DOCS, FORMS, LINKS, there are many helpful tools at your disposal. All of the known forms needed for all neighborhood business and activities are listed on the site, and the list keeps growing. As a new need is realized, the site gets updated with additional links in an effort to give you one place to find everything you need to make the most out of our community.

You will find everything from information regarding mosquitoes and violation summaries, to downloadable forms for vacation watches and ACC applications.

One of the tools that you'll find is very helpful, but not very pleasant. It is a link to the sex offender section of the TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY web site (<https://records.txdps.state.tx.us/soSearch/default.cfm>). This site contains a mapping tool that allows you to input your address and assess your surroundings and proximity to known offenders.

Although it is a difficult subject to address, this link helps enhance the safety of our community through knowledge.

Use the site. Be knowledgeable and be safe.

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## Business Classifieds

**RECEPTIONIST AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSON WANTED.** Carlton-Bates Company is seeking to fill full time and part time positions. We are located near HWY 290/SH6. For more information, please call Cyndi at (281) 571-4211 or email [cjj@carlton-bates.com](mailto:cjj@carlton-bates.com).

**MAID SERVICES:** We want to CLEAN your home. Fairfield References. Bonded. Will furnish supplies. A family owned business since 1987. FREE ESTIMATES. Call us at 281-859-3162

**NEED HELP SELLING YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS?** Let me sell them for you on eBay! Want to learn how to buy and sell on eBay? Ebay trained and approved instructor. Need computer classes? Call Patti 281-256-0215 or visit [www.eduadv.com](http://www.eduadv.com)

**GARAGE DOORS & OPENERS:** 30 years N.W. Houston Resident, Semi-Retired. Repair or Replace any Garage Door or Opener. New Doors & Openers Installed. 30 years in Garage Door business. Call 713-725-8787.

## Classifieds

**For Sale or Lease:** 11423 Old Mission Road (Riata Ranch) 4/2/2 home has been smoke and pet free. Call Monica Hayman 713-594-7097 or [monicahayman@hotmail.com](mailto:monicahayman@hotmail.com) for more information or pictures of the home

## START THE CHRISTMAS SEASON WITH "THE LITTLEST ANGEL"



Begin your Christmas celebrations with Messiah Lutheran's production of "The Littlest Angel". Admission is free. The play is scheduled for Saturday, December 2 at 6 PM and Sunday, December 3 at 3 PM. The play tells the story of the Littlest Angel, a precocious angel full of mischief, and her transformation as she gives a special gift to the Christ Child. The entire family will enjoy this humorous production. In order to be certain the play is not overbooked, tickets are required, but they are free. Call Messiah Lutheran, 281-890-3013 to reserve your tickets. Messiah Lutheran is a grace place. All people are welcome. Messiah is located at 11522 Telge Road, 1/2 mile north of Highway 290. [www.messiahlc.org](http://www.messiahlc.org)

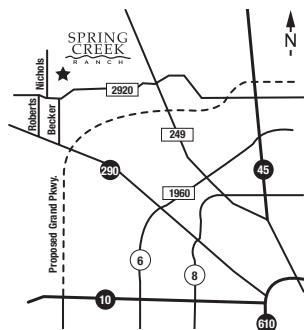
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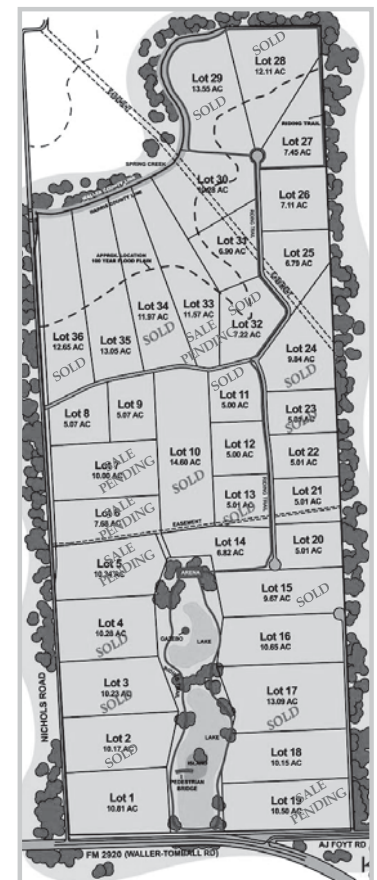


**Marlon Davis**  
Spring Creek Ranch  
Land Consultant  
281-357-LAND  
cell: 832-287-5937  
[mdavis@caldwellwatson.com](mailto:mdavis@caldwellwatson.com)



**SPRING CREEK RANCH**

24711 Mesquite River Trail  
Hockley, Texas 77447



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# Riata Ranch

## Cypress Assistance Ministries

Food Pantry: You can brighten the holidays for families in our community by donating the following items to be used for Thanksgiving Food Baskets:

Turkeys

- Canned Sweet Potatoes/Yams
- Evaporated milk
- Dressing mixes
- Cake mixes and Frosting
- Canned pumpkin

Donations of paper towels, toilet paper, paper plates and paper cups are also greatly appreciated.

Christmas Baking Baskets: Imagine the holidays without your favorite cookies, candy or cake. A Baking Basket is a wonderful way to provide a CAM family with a special treat during the holidays. The baskets are put together using your favorite holiday cookie, cake or pie recipe along with all the ingredients needed to make the recipe. Be sure to remember flour, sugar, sprinkles, nuts and chocolate chips. Baking utensils or pans can also be added to the baskets. Let your imagination inspire you. Please bring the Baking Baskets to Cypress Assistance Ministries by December 15, 2006.

Cypress Assistance Ministries (CAM), located at 11202 Huffmeister, exists to provide a safe place for individuals or families to tell their story and be offered some measure of hope during difficult times.

*Donations to Cypress Assistance Ministries can be made Monday through Wednesday from 10AM – 6PM and Thursday through Saturday from 10AM – 3 PM.*



## Cypress Contracting

Janet McCauley: **281-844-6201**  
Beverly Hoffert: **713-213-2064**

In this holiday season, please allow us to decorate your home or do that all important home improvement in time for you to receive company.

Let us quote you for these services:

- Holiday Decorations & Lighting**
- Paint/Interior and Exterior**
- Remodel**
- Power Wash Exterior**
- Fencing**
- Concrete**

## This Is Your Newsletter!

Do you have an idea or suggestion for the newsletter? Want to submit a photo, article, or both? It's easy!! Email the editor at [editor@riataranch.net](mailto:editor@riataranch.net). Articles for the newsletter are finalized on the 10<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month. So if you get your ideas in before the deadline, you should see them in the very next month's newsletter.

We are glad to hear all of the positive feedback and we intend to continue to improving the look and feel of the newsletter according to what you tell us. So get as involved as you like! We look forward to hearing from you.

## Classified Ads

**Personal classifieds** (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Riata Ranch residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail [editor@riatranchnet](mailto:editor@riatranchnet).

**Business classifieds** (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$45, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales @ 512-989-8905 or [advertising@PEELinc.com](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com).

# FAIRFIELD

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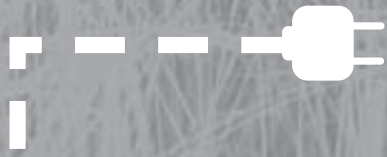
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we can  
help you  
pay for it.



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Don't spend your money on rising energy costs. **Choose Spark Energy** and start receiving the **savings you deserve.**

According to PowertoChoose.com, Spark Energy provides **low cost energy solutions** to meet your needs.

Sign up with Spark Energy's Online Advantage 12 Plan and receive a **\$25 gift certificate to Carrabbas** or one of its family of restaurants. This is our way of giving you more of what you want... **money in your pocket.**



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## Texas Events - November

10—HARLINGEN: History of the Harlingen Public Library Hours are 2 to 4 p.m. Harlingen Public Library. 956/345-4758  
10-11—DEER PARK: Creative Hands Crafts Sale Jimmy Burke Activity Center. [www.deerparktx.gov](http://www.deerparktx.gov) 281/478-2050  
10-11—GALVESTON: Man of La Mancha The Grand 1894 Opera House. [www.thegrand.com](http://www.thegrand.com) 800/821-1894  
10-11—PEARLAND: First United Methodist Pearland Gift Alley Includes high-end arts & crafts, silent auction, music and a children's activity area. First United Methodist Church. [www.fumcpearland.org](http://www.fumcpearland.org) 281/485-1466  
10-12—BEAUMONT: Seventh Annual Spindletop Film Festival This festival is a great way to meet Hollywood insiders and professionals involved in all aspects of filmmaking. [www.lamar.edu](http://www.lamar.edu) 409/880-8490  
10-13, 17-18—BROWNSVILLE: I Remember Mama 1 Dean Porter Park. [www.camilleplayers.cjb.net](http://www.camilleplayers.cjb.net) 956/542-8900  
11—BEAUMONT: Flamin' Hot Car Show The museum grounds will be full of hot rods, street rods, muscle cars, antique and classic cars, trucks, mustangs, import cars and vettes. Includes food vendors and kids games. Fire Museum of Texas. [www.firemuseumoftexas.org](http://www.firemuseumoftexas.org) 409/880-3927  
11—EDNA: Annual Flag Retirement for Veteran's Day Begins at 2 p.m. Lake Texana State Park. 361/782-5718

11—EDNA: Christmas in the Outback Arts & crafts show is held in conjunction with the Texana Chili Spill at Brackenridge on Lake Texana. Hafernick Center, Brackenridge Plantation Park. [www.jacksoncountytexas.com](http://www.jacksoncountytexas.com) 361/782-7146  
11—GALVESTON: Eighth Annual Texas Aviation Hall of Fame Induction Gala Black-tie optional event celebrates aviation pioneers and heroes of Texas. Begins at 6 p.m. Lone Star Flight Museum. [www.lonestarflight.org](http://www.lonestarflight.org) 888/354-4488  
11—HARLINGEN: Kidsfish Dixieland Lake Park. 956/216-5950  
11—HARLINGEN: Veterans Day Parade Iwo Jima Monument at Marine Military Academy. [www.mma-tx.org](http://www.mma-tx.org) 956/423-6006 ext. 235  
11—PORT ARTHUR: St. Catherine of Siena "Taste of Culture" Includes cultural music and food. 409/962-3011  
11—SANTA FE: Wine & Stars Party Haak Winery, 6310 Ave. T. [www.haakwine.com](http://www.haakwine.com) 409/925-1401  
11—WEST COLUMBIA: Brazoria County Bluegrass Concert American Legion. [www.westcolumbia.org](http://www.westcolumbia.org) 979-265-4757  
11—WEST COLUMBIA: Veterans Day Open House Special patriotic display includes honors, medals, uniforms and personal tributes to Brazoria County veterans. Columbia Historical Museum. 979/345-6125

(Continued on pg 9)



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SIDING REPAIRS

WOOD TRIM REPAIRS

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FENCING

& MORE...

*SERVING HOUSTON SINCE 1986*



**Texas Events - (Continued from pg 8)**

11-12—HOUSTON: 17th Annual Texas Championship Powwow Includes colorful tribal dance contests, an Indian artist and traders arts & crafts tent, honoring ceremonies, singing, dancing and more. Traders Village. [www.tradersvillage.com](http://www.tradersvillage.com) 281/890-5500

11-12—PASADENA: 25th Annual Martyn Farm Fall Festival Includes demonstrations, farm animals, antique machines, crafts, music, storytellers, rides and more. Armand Bayou Nature Center. [www.abnc.org](http://www.abnc.org) 281/474-2551

11-12—TEXAS CITY: Model Train Festival Features modular layouts and interactive kids layouts. Museum & Showboat Pavilion. [www.texas-city-tx.org](http://www.texas-city-tx.org) 409/643-5799

11-Dec. 24—SPRING: Home for the Holidays Celebrate the season with more than 150 shops offering unique gifts from around the world. [www.otsid.com](http://www.otsid.com) 281/288-2355

12—GALVESTON: 16th Annual Lone Star Flight Museum Fly Day Feel the excitement as WWII bombers and fighters take to the skies. Lone Star Flight Museum. [www.lonestarflight.org](http://www.lonestarflight.org) 888/354-4488

12—GALVESTON: The Levee Singers — A Trip Down Memory Lane The Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice St. [www.thegrand.com](http://www.thegrand.com) 800/821-1894

12—TEXAS CITY: Taste of the Town & Auction Showcases area restaurants. Mall of the Mainland. [www.texascitychamber.com](http://www.texascitychamber.com) 409/935-1408

16—HARLINGEN: Christmas Tree Extravaganza Opens the Christmas Tree Forest Exhibit. Hours are 6 to 9 p.m. Harlingen Arts & Heritage Museum. 956/216-4901

16-19—HARLINGEN: Murder at the Howard Johnson's (Comedy) Harlingen Performing Arts Theatre. 956/412-7529

16-Jan. 8—HARLINGEN: Christmas Tree Forest Exhibit Be enchanted by the creativity and spirit of a forest of Christmas trees. Call to schedule a tour. Harlingen Arts & Heritage Museum. 956/216-4901

17—HARLINGEN: Alpin Hong Pianist — Harlingen Concert Association Harlingen Municipal Auditorium. 956/748-3020

17—HARLINGEN: Feast of Sharing Dinner celebrates Thanksgiving Day. Harlingen Community Center. 956/423-5440

17—VICTORIA: Country Opry Hours are 7:30 to 10 p.m. Victoria Community Center Annex. 361/552-9347

17—WHARTON: Christmas-on-the-Square Take in the holiday season with the Christmas tree-lighting spectacular at 6:30 p.m. 979/532-1862

*(Continued on pg 10)*

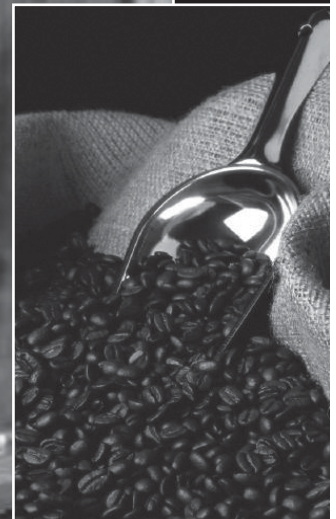
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## Texas Events - (Continued from pg 9)

17—WHARTON: Lighted Holiday Parade Begins at 7 p.m. 979/532-1862  
17-19—WHARTON: Cowboy Christmas 979/531-0000 or 979/532-1862  
17-19, 30—VICTORIA: Nuncrackers Leo J. Welder Center for the Performing Arts. www.theatrevictoria.org 361/576-6277  
18—BAY CITY: Market Day www.visitbaycity.org 800/806-8333  
18—BEAUMONT: Jefferson Theatre Presents Vocalist Cassandra Black Begins at 7:30 p.m. Jefferson Theatre. www.sost.org 409/892-2257  
18—GALVESTON: Jesus Christ, Superstar The Grand 1894 Opera House. www.thegrand.com 800/821-1894  
18—KEMAH: Seventh Annual Beat the Heat Kemah Boardwalk. www.kemahboardwalk.com 281/334-9880  
18—KINGSVILLE: Ranch Hand Breakfast Cooked and served outdoors on the King Ranch. 800/333-5032  
18—LA PORTE: Hard Hat Tour Battleship Texas State Historic Site. 281/479-2431 ext. 234  
18—LAKE JACKSON: Festival of Lights Lake Jackson Civic Center & Plaza. 979/297-4533  
18—SAN BENITO: Arts & Crafts Show Fun 'N Sun RV Resort. 956/399-5800  
18—TOMBALL: Holiday Parade Features more than 175 entries.

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18—VICTORIA: Market Days DeLeon Plaza. www.victoriatx.org 361/485-3200  
18-Jan. 7—GALVESTON: Moody Gardens Festival of Lights Moody Gardens. 800/582-4673  
19—EL CAMPO: Polka Expo Features polka dancing, various bands and craft booths. Silver Wings Ballroom. www.kulpradio.com 979/543-3303  
19—GROVES: Christmas Tree Trail to Groves Find specialty gifts and more. Downtown Groves. 409/962-3631  
23—BEAUMONT: Thanksfest Historic Downtown Beaumont. www.crockettstreet.com 409/832-2944  
23—HOUSTON: Holiday Parade Route travels 20 blocks throughout downtown Houston. www.hebparade.com 713/654-8808  
24—GALVESTON: Harbor Parade of Lights & Boat Festival View the decorated boats. Pier 21. 409/763-7080  
24—SOUTH PADRE ISLAND: Lighting of the Island Join Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus for the official lighting, refreshments and caroling. South Padre Island Visitors Center. 800/767-2373  
24-25—SOUTH PADRE ISLAND: South Padre Island Division I Invitational Basketball Tournament Teams from around the nation

(Continued on pg 11)

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## Texas Events - (Continued from pg 10)

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25—GALVESTON: ArtWalk Galveston's Historic Downtown District. [www.galvestonartscenter.org](http://www.galvestonartscenter.org) 409/763-2403

25—KEMAH: Nutcracker Vignette Kemah Boardwalk. [www.kemahboardwalk.com](http://www.kemahboardwalk.com) 281/334-9880

25-26, 30-Dec. 3—CLUTE: Elizabethan Madrigal Feast Begins at 7 p.m. Center for the Arts & Sciences. 979/265-7661

27—HARLINGEN: Folkways Harlingen Arts & Heritage Museum. 956/216-4901

28—DEER PARK: Christmas Tree Lighting Includes musical entertainment, Santa appearance, and turning on of Christmas lights. Municipal Court Building. [www.deerpark.org](http://www.deerpark.org) 281/479-1559

28—HARLINGEN: 15th Annual Lights for Life Tree Lighting Ceremony Features tree lighting, caroling and visit from Santa. East Tower of Valley Baptist Hospital. [www.valleybaptist.net](http://www.valleybaptist.net) 956/389-1024

30—HARLINGEN: Arroyo Holiday Lighting Features performances by local groups and Santa Claus. McKelvey Park. 956/423-5440

*Texas Events has been published with the permission of the Texas Department of Transportation. All events are taken in part from the Texas Events Calendar. All dates for events were correct at the time of publication and are subject to change.*

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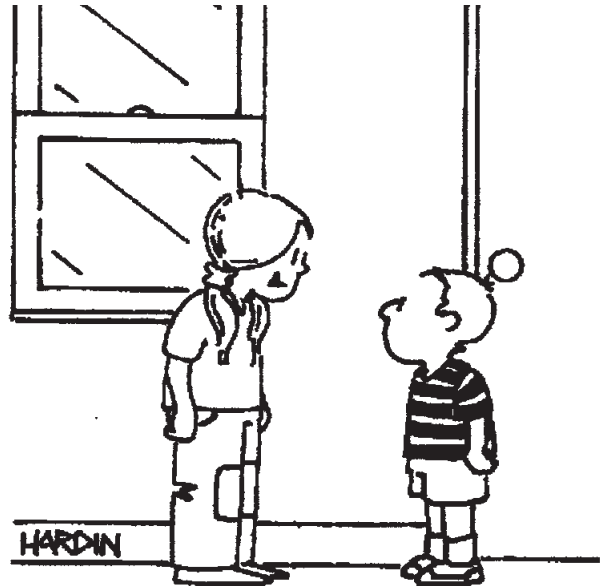
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- House/Plant Care
- Lawn Care

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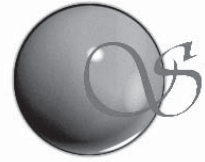
Age \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I give my permission for my child's name and phone number to be entered in THE RANCH REVIEW as a TEENAGE JOB SEEKER

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Here are some of the reasons for gums receding which can cause sensitivity to cold or even worse, over time, damage the nerve for good.

Bite being a problem, as the bite may be putting too much force on certain teeth. Make sure your dentist checks your bite thoroughly at every visit since it changes frequently.

The gums around the teeth are very thin, thus easy to recede due to the above reason.

A crown that is put on a tooth is too thick at its edge, which goes down inside the gums, thus irritating the gums and making it recede. You will see continuous redness instead of pink, firm gums.

Bacterial infection from just not brushing and flossing well can also make the gums recede.

Treatments such as fillings, gum grafting, and just simple fluoride treatments are available. However, same thing will recur if the cause is not taken care of first.

In the mean time, if you have any dental related questions, please email me at [sundranidds@yahoo.com](mailto:sundranidds@yahoo.com), and I will happily respond to your inquiries.

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## Resistant Bacteria Increasing Source of Muscle Infection

Baylor College of Medicine

HOUSTON -- (Sept. 25, 2006) – An antibiotic-resistant bacteria called methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) is increasingly a cause of muscle infections in children, said Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) researchers in a report in the journal Clinical Infectious Diseases.

The report appears online at <http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/CID/journal/contents/v43n8.html> in the October 15, 2006, issue.

“We had noticed an increase in the number of muscle infections,” said Dr. Pia Pannaraj, a post-doctoral fellow in the department of pediatrics’ section of infectious diseases at BCM. She said that in recent years, she and her colleagues at Texas Children’s Hospital had started to see a case of the MRSA muscle infection every month. In the cases she studied, the infection was acquired in the community, she said.

“I think it is important for parents to be aware that this bacterial infection can exist,” she said. “They should seek care from their child’s primary physician if there are symptoms of such an infection, such as a child limping or if there is redness or swelling in an extremity.”

Houston, in particular, has a high rate of MRSA infections. More than 75 percent of community-acquired staphylococcal infections

treated at Texas Children’s Hospital are MRSA (resistant to the antibiotics commonly used to treat these infections in the past), she said. The rate of such infections is increasing nationwide.

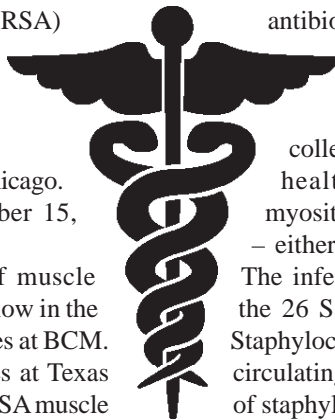
In surveying patient records, Pannaraj and her colleagues found that in 60 percent of the 45 previously healthy children with the muscle infections called myositis and pyomyositis, the cause was a form of bacteria – either Staphylococcus aureus or Streptococcus pyogenes. The infections occurred between 2000 and 2005. Fifteen of the 26 S. aureus infections tested were methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) forms of the bacteria that were circulating in the community. The other infections were forms of staphylococcal bacteria that were not resistant to methicillin, an antibiotic.

It is important the doctors treating patients for skin infections such as cellulitis to use antibiotics that will cure the resistant forms of the bacteria, said Pannaraj.

“Be aware that this is out there,” she said. “When someone comes in, doctors should be aware that this could be a muscle abscess.”

Antibiotics that successfully treat MRSA include oral clindamycin and trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole, which are usually used out

(Continued on pg 16)



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## Sudoku

The challenge is to fill every row across, every column down, and every 3x3 box with the digits 1 through 9. Each 1 through 9 digit must appear only once in each row across, each column down, and each 3x3 box.

6	1	8		2	9	3		
			5				9	
					3	1		
3	8		4	5				
		7					5	6
				7		8		
							7	2
	6							
	3			1		4		

\*Solution on page 20

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### Resistant Bacteria - (Continued from pg 15)

of the hospital, and vancomycin or clindamycin, which is given intravenously, usually to hospitalized patients.

The form of MRSA that is acquired in the community spreads more easily than that usually caught in the hospital, said Pannaraj.

"That's why I am seeing it in otherwise healthy children," she said.

She and her colleagues are trying to find out why this particular form of the bacteria spreads so easily. Her studies are focusing on specific genes. One, pvl, permits holes to be poked into the cells, damaging them irreparably.

"There seems to be an association between bacteria carrying the pvl gene and the severity of disease," she said. However, she said, they have not yet determined whether the problem is this specific gene or another that is close to it.

Others who participated in this research include: Drs. Kristina G. Hulten, Blanca E. Gonzalez, Edward O. Mason, Jr., and Sheldon L. Kaplan, all of the section of infectious diseases in the department of pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children's Hospital.

Funding for this study came in part from Pfizer Pharmaceutical Company.

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# Cryptogram



A cryptogram is a puzzle where a sentence is encoded by substituting the actual letters of the sentence with different letters. The challenge of the puzzle is to 'decode' the sentence to reveal the original English sentence. We have provided a few of the decoded letters to help get you started.

**Hint: A famous quote by Ivern Ball...**

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
		O					J	K									I	S							

S                    S                    S                    R                    I C  
 M R S E   R F   D S   G S Y   F R I   G T C K O Q  
 H  
 X J Q N   X Q   Y N R X   E J Q   G N S X Q I   W D E  
  
    I                    R  
 X Q   X G N E   G   T K F F Q I Q N E   R N Q

\*Solution on page 22

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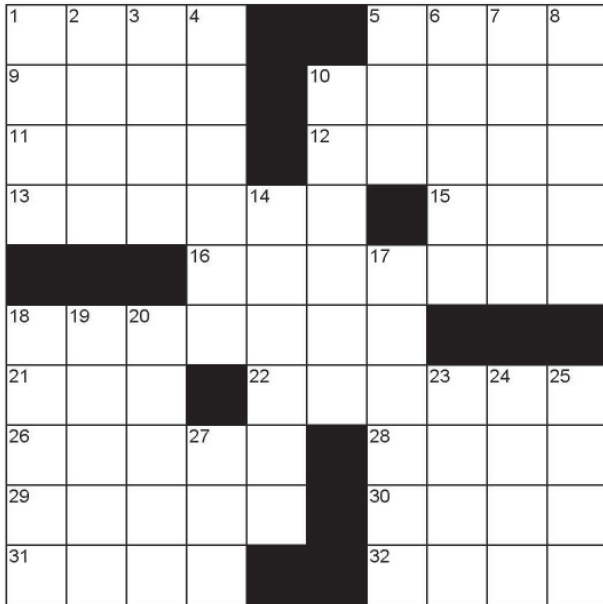


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# Crossword Puzzle



**ACROSS**

- 1. Tails
- 5. Tableland
- 9. Billy or nanny
- 10. Expressing dislike word
- 11. Capital of Norway
- 12. Dote
- 13. Eludes
- 15. Beverage
- 16. Crime
- 18. Crayon name
- 21. Cause of sickness
- 22. Merchant
- 26. Arc
- 28. Dwell
- 29. Ballerina skirts
- 30. Among
- 31. Dueling sword
- 32. Fly alone

**DOWN**

- 1. Id's counterparts
- 2. Eat
- 3. Painter of melting clocks
- 4. Breezy
- 5. Soil
- 6. Show emotions
- 7. Lark
- 8. In the lead
- 10. Fuss
- 14. Booths
- 17. City
- 18. Social position
- 19. Shred (2 wds.)
- 20. Having wings
- 23. Fancy car
- 24. Vile
- 25. Do it again
- 27. Regret

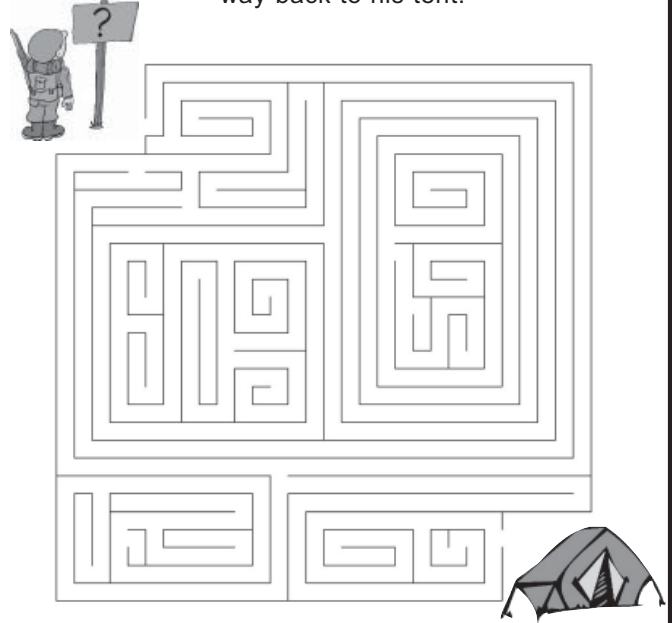
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*\*Solution on page 23*

# Caroline's Kids Corner!

## Kidz Maze Mania

Help the lost soldier find his way back to his tent.



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Find the names of eight states of the United States. Words can go vertically, horizontally, and diagonally.

**Do it in less than 3 minutes and you are a Pro!**

<b>Kidz Word Seek</b>	N	X	K	B	V	Z	N	M	A	C	F	Q
	I	Z	N	H	A	T	U	D	A	R	T	T
	S	S	K	C	V	P	I	F	H	I	E	V
	N	A	W	N	K	R	O	Q	P	X	N	W
	O	S	J	J	O	T	R	K	A	X	J	E
	C	N	H	L	R	C	E	S	F	M	L	D
	S	A	F	Y	N	H	G	T	R	F	W	K
	I	K	W	X	D	M	O	C	M	G	L	P
	W	R	Z	J	D	X	N	C	T	Y	Z	R
	H	A	W	A	I	I	M	F	C	N	R	Z
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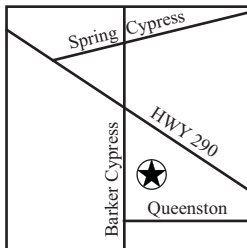
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Whether you are looking for a rejuvenating day or a quick manicure or pedicure, this is the place for you!

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Walk-ins welcome, appointments recommended.

## Sudoku Solution

6	1	8	7	2	9	3	4	5
4	7	3	5	6	1	2	9	8
9	2	5	8	4	3	1	6	7
3	8	9	4	5	6	7	2	1
2	4	7	1	3	8	9	5	6
1	5	6	9	7	2	8	3	4
5	9	1	3	8	4	6	7	2
8	6	4	2	9	7	5	1	3
7	3	2	6	1	5	4	8	9

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## Did You Know? Fun Facts:

Theodore Roosevelt was the first president to ride in an automobile. He toured Hartford, Conn. in a Columbia Electra Victoria on August 22, 1902.

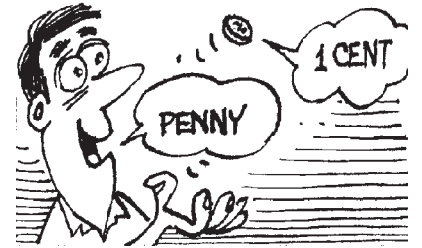


Hang on to your glass. Prior to 1750, coasters originally came with small wheels so drinks could be moved across a table. Sometimes shaped like tiny wagons, they were also known as sliders.

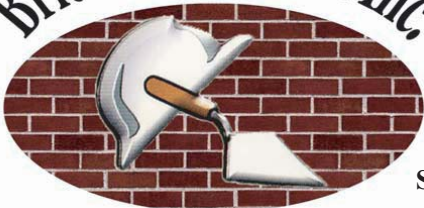
The American inventor Alexander Graham Bell wrote for the National Geographic magazine as H.W. Largelamb, which is an anagram of his name.



Technically, the coin that we call a penny does not exist. At the U.S. Mint, it's officially called a "cent."



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# Cryptogram Solution

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
G	W	O	T	Q	F	L	J	K	U	Y	Z	M	N	R	B	A	I	S	E	D	C	X	V	H	P

M O S T   O F   U S   A S K   F O R   A D V I C E  
M R S E   R F   D S   G S Y   F R I   G T C K O Q  
W H E N   W E   K N O W   T H E   A N S W E R   B U T  
X J Q N   X Q   Y N R X   E J Q   G N S X Q I   W D E  
W E   W A N T   A   D I F F E R E N T   O N E .  
X Q   X G N E   G   T K F F Q I Q N E   R N Q

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## Crossword Solution

E	N	D	S			M	E	S	A	
G	O	A	T			H	U	M	P	H
O	S	L	O			A	D	O	R	E
S	H	I	R	K	S			T	E	A
			M	I	S	D	E	E	D	
C	R	A	Y	O	L	A				
A	I	L		S	E	L	L	E	R	
S	P	A	R	K			L	I	V	E
T	U	T	U	S			A	M	I	D
E	P	E	E				S	O	L	O

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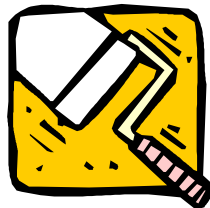
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Section 1	4	-	-	-	56.89
Section 2	2	2	2	69	73.56
Section 3	2	-	3	79	68.84
Section 4	4	1	1	4	-
Section 5	8	1	1	148	-
Section 6	4	-	1	104	-
Section 7	3	-	-	-	-
Section 8	5	-	-	-	-
Section 9	3	-	-	-	-
Section 10	4	-	1*	13*	73.11*
Section 11	3	1	-	-	-

**\*Sold by Ann Marie**

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