www.riataranch.net November 2008 Volume 3, Issue 11

Official Publication of Riata Ranch Homeowners Association

Riata Ranch Homeowners Meetings

The Riata Ranch HOA Board of Directors encourages all homeowners to participate in the monthly board meetings. The meeting is held on the last Tuesday of every month. If you are interested in participating please contact SCS management in order to add your topic to the meeting agenda.

riatahoa@riataranch.net or...

Debbie Spaw - Association Manager dspaw@scsmgnt.com SCS Management Services, Inc. 7170 Cherry Park Dr. Houston, Texas 77095 Direct phone: (281) 500-7102 Direct fax: (281) 500-7172

RIATA RANCH - UTILIZATION OF PARK AREA

The Riata Ranch Board of Directors is requesting your input regarding the usage of the Riata Ranch Park area. Last year the Board of Directors initially voted to restrict park usage to only Riata Ranch residents. This decision was based on the volume of traffic that was creating traffic/parking issues and safety issues concerning the kids running into street traffic.

Since then the Board has been requested to reconsider their decision by several residents currently using the park for practices and games via sports organizations. At the same time, the Board has been asked to up hold their decision by several residents.

Therefore the Board has decided to allow the residents of Riata Ranch to decide how their park will be utilized.

There will be a Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, December 3rd at Cy-Fair College in Room 153 beginning at 7:00PM. If you are unable to attend, please send in your vote via mail to SCS Management, via fax, or email.

NOT IN FAVOR OF allowing organizations to use Riata Ranch park area for public use

_____ IN FAVOR OF allowing organizations to use Riata Ranch park area for public use

Additional Comments or suggestions:								

Pease return your ballot by mail, fax or email to: SCS Management Services – Attn Debbie Spaw 7170 Cherry Park Dr. Houston, Texas 77095-2713

Fax: 281-500-7167

Email: clambeth@scsmgmt.com

Resident Name:
Address:
City. State,Zip
Phone:
Email:

DEADLINE IS November 17, 2008

Note: Only one vote per household will be accepted. Full name, address and phone number is required for validation. We hope to hear from you on this topic so we best represent the resident's opinions.

Thanks - The Riata Ranch HOA Board

RiataRanch.net

IMPORTANT NUMBERS Emergency Memorial City Hospital713-932-3000 **Schools** Cy-Falls High......281-856-1000 Utilities HCMUD #196 Centerpoint Electric713-207-2222 AT&T/SBC800-464-7928 Warner Cable......713-462-9000 Waste Mgt713-686-6666 HOA, SCS Mgt281-463-1777 United States Post Office800-275-8777 Library **Newsletter Publisher** Advertising...... advertising@Peelinc.com, 888-687-6444

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Vacation Watch

At your request, the Harris County Sheriff's Department will put your house on VACATION WATCH. Just go to 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.

Cypress N Houston @ Barker Cypress

The engineer for HCMUD #196 has informed us that within the next few weeks the county will begin extending Cypress N Houston on the west side of Barker Cypress. It will extend west far enough for Riata West to utilize their main entrance. At that time they will be putting traffic lights in at that intersection which will make it easier to turn south onto barker Cypress from Cypress N Houston. At the same time, they will be making Cypress N Houston on our side of Barker Cypress 4 lane divided back to the first storm drain. Prior to this we will be taking down the three columns at that entrance along with the flower beds. We will be constructing a new entrance once the road work is complete. The county will not work around the columns. If we don't take them down, the utility crews will.

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

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.



Lone Star College-CyFair - November Perspective

In an effort to provide you with important information about Lone Star College-CyFair "Perspective" was developed. This column provides the latest information about news and events. Here is a sampling of what's going on:

Save the Dates for Art, Music, Theatre and Vocal Events

The Bosque Gallery presents the end-of-the-semester LSC-CyFair Fall Student Art Exhibition Nov. 19 – Dec. 4 with a reception Nov. 20 Go to CyFair.LoneStar.edu/bosquegallery for hours and information. The Theatre Department presents a hilarious, poignant, endearing and Tony award-winning play, "The Laast Night of Ballyhoo" Nov. 13 – Nov. 23. Next month features String Orchestra and Jazz Band concerts, Dec. 1 and Dec. 3 respectively as well as "Messiah – A Sacred Oratorio" Dec. 5 and Dec. 6. For tickets and information call 281-290-5201or go to CyFair.LoneStar.edu/boxoffice.

Free Fall Film Series Concludes This Month

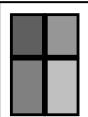
The Cinema WOW! Film Series, offered as individual continuing education Film Appreciation classes, includes an engaging discussion after the movie. November films include "Rainmaker" Wednesday, Nov. 5; "Caine Mutiny" Saturday, Nov. 15 (at LSC-Fairbanks Center) and "Buena Vista Social Club" Wednesday, Nov. 19. Registration is available online as well as at the film events, which are open to the community at no charge. For information, go to CyFair.LoneStar.edu/filmseries.

L.I.F.E. Lessons in November

The Learning, Inspiration, Fellowship and Enrichment (L.I.F.E.) programs are free and held Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Lone Star College-CyFair Branch Library (Room 131.) In November, learn about amazing medical breakthroughs with Baylor College of Medicine's Tony Elam Nov. 5; get a tour of Native American culture in movies Nov. 12 and see hands-on demonstrations of geotagging Nov. 19. Call the library at 281-290-3213 for L.I.F.E. program information or go online to CyFair.LoneStar.edu/library.

Register for Mini-mester and Spring Semester Classes

Catch up or get ahead this holiday season! Take a mini-mester course in December or register early for spring. Phone and online registration begins Nov. 10 with on campus registration set Nov. 24. Mini-mester classes begin Dec. 15. Mini-mester courses range from criminal justice, philosophy, sociology and ethics, to algebra, history, government and communications. Spring semester classes begin Jan. 12, 2009. Lone Star College-CyFair provides a variety of options such as weekend, evening, distance learning and even hybrid (part on campus instruction and part online learning) courses. For information, call 281-290-3200 or 832-782-5000 or go online to CyFair.LoneStar.edu.



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8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School for All Ages 10:30am Worship

Wednesday Schedule

6:00pm Dinner 6:30pm Worship 6:45pm Classes for All Ages

Sunday, November 23rd

4-7pm Finding Peace with Your Money

Check us out on the web at www.staidanshouston.org

Father Justin, our Priest, looks forward to meeting you! Come see our new church at 13131 Fry Road, Cypress, TX 77433







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Creating Strong Vibrant Communities

It's a fact of our global economy that consumers are drawn to the internet because of convenience. But as as residents of Cypress and in the wake of Ike, we may need to remind ourselves why it is important to "Think Local Business First."

- 1. Local businesses are often collectively our largest local employer. The largest growth of jobs is from small business owners.
- 2. When one dollar is spent at a local business, economists indicate it is circulated four to seven additional times in the local economy.
- 3. Every dollar spent locally generates up to 75% more tax revenue to our community and State.
- 4. Local businesses are often the largest financial supporters of neighborhood school programs, local charities and youth sports activities.
- Strong local business helps maintain property values and contribute to the character of our community by offering a diverse selection of goods and services.
- 6. Local business is most often the first job for our children but also is the first introduction into the "real world" of economics. Many of us in Cypress have had a small business owner in their family at one time or another.
- 7. Small business often innovates quicker and thus grows faster and can have a greater impact on our community.

 Creating a Strong Vibrant Community when we



DONATIONS NEEDED

Cypress Assistance Ministries - 11202 Huffmeister 281-955-7684 - www.cypressassistance.org

Angels' Attic Christmas Room is now open. The Christmas Room will be overflowing with one-of-a-kind Christmas tree ornaments, decorative accessories for the home, personal gift items and jewelry. Come find that one-of-a-kind gift for your family and friends. Funds received through the resale shop help support the ministry services and Food Pantry at CAM.

To brighten the holidays for a family in our community, please consider donating the following items to be used for Thanksgiving Food Baskets.

- Turkeys
- Canned sweet potatoes/yams
- · Dressing mixes
- · Canned pumpkin
- · Evaporated milk
- · Cake mixes and frosting

Donations of paper towels, toilet paper,

diapers, and shampoo would also be greatly appreciated.

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. For a description of all our services and volunteer opportunities, please see our Web site, www. cypressassistance.org.

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

If you need further information, please give us a call at 281-955-7684 and ask for Kelly.



Street Light Out?

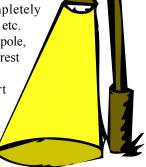
Don't drive around in the dark! Report it. It's easy. Just call 713-207-2222 and list the following:

• 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.

Or you can report it on the internet.
Go to www.riataranch.net and click on "Report Street Light Outages".





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Make sense?

Please choose "Newsletter Ad" as your referral on the SparkPowerBank.com website.



The Tri-County Quilt Guild

Meets the 1st Tuesday of the month, 7-9pm

Meeting Place: Fairfield Baptist Church, 27240 High way 29 0 just off Muescke Rd, Cypress, TX 77433-4907

website: www.tricountyquiltguild.org

Established 2005

Some of our activities include Show & Tell, BOM's, Fabric Exchanges, Charity Quilts, Bees, Special Programs, guest speakers and more, with Door Prizes at every meeting!

We are a very friendly group and welcome quilters of all levels of expertise, from the Just Love Quilts and never sewn to the experienced and published. Visitors welcome!

Please check out our website for more information.



As you celebrate the season, it's important to keep your furry friends safe and stress-free.

Household changes and activity can be very hard on pets.

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Many plants and berries (poinsettias, mistletoe, ivy and holly to name a few) can be toxic to pets. Also be careful where you hang ornaments and decorations...the higher the better!
- Gatherings of people and holiday parties can frighten animals.
 Plan a safe place for them to retreat too when company arrives or when Halloween doorbells are ringing.
- Holiday leftovers can wreak havoc with your pet's digestive system. This is especially true with older pets. Turkey drippings, poultry bones and chocolate can all result in a trip to the emergency vet.





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New Stress Reducer - House Plants

Submitted by Dr. Tenesha Weine

House plants look pretty, fill empty spaces on the floor, and reduce stress. That's right, reduce stress. Being close to house plants makes us feel good. House plants reduce heart rate, blood pressure, and help with skin conductivity. Research has shown that people in planted offices recover from stress more quickly than those in un-planted offices.

No, the nursery with the pink flamingos around the corner from my office did not pay me to write this! It's true, the effect is seen more significantly in situations where the tasks being performed are repetitive or require only low levels of concentration by improving the air quality and people's perception of the building.

Think about it, humans were made to be outside in the woods or jungle, not inside of a cubicle with florescent lighting for eight hours. So, plants in the office help remind our cells there is life outside the four walls of our office.

Plants also give employees a sense of nurturing and caring, and is a highly interactive and a satisfying experience as it relates to our innate desire to take care of something else living.

A number of studies also show plants can reduce the incidence of minor health complaints. Planted buildings have less airborne dust and increased humidity and static electricity. This is mainly because plants are slightly negatively charged compared with their surroundings. This attracts positivity charged dust particles and reduces the number in the air and on the surrounding surfaces.

A Norwegian study, after plants were installed in the trail office, the staff complaints about:

- *fatigue was reduced by 30%
- *dry throats were reduced by 30%
- *headaches were reduced by 25%
- *coughing was decreased by 40%
- *skin irritations were reduced by 25%

So go out and buy a beautiful fern, a prayer plant, or a begonia today and feel better in your office!



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- 3. Test ignition system for safe & proper operation
- 4. Test safety & control circuits for proper operation
- 5. Test exhaust system for proper venting
- 6. Inspect blower motor bearings for wear
- 7. Measure temperature differences-Supply/Return
- 8. Inspect and adjust fan belt tension (if applicable)
- 9. Check thermostat for accuracy
- 10. Inspect for combustible material around furnace
- 11.Brush clean and vacuum burner
- 12.Brush clean and vacuum heat exchanger
- 13. Test furnace flame for proper burn
- 14. Clean existing filters as needed
- 15. Measure and adjust gas pressure for peak efficiency
- 16.Lubricate all moving parts, per manufacturer
- 17. Measure amperage and voltage of blower motor
- 18. Tighten and inspect all electrical wiring
- 19. Check for proper combustion air
- 20. Test for gas leaks
- 21.Clean furnace exterior



TACLA 1888C NLPI-10-08

Cypress Christian School Welcomes New Principal

Cypress Christian School is pleased to announce the appointment of Donna Stumbaugh to the position of elementary principal.

"Mrs. Stumbaugh has committed her time, talents, and energy during the last 12 years to minister to students, parents, and teachers at Cypress Christian School," said Dr. Glenn Holzman, Head of School. "Her proven experience in curriculum development and improvement, as well as her extraordinary organizational and leadership skills, allow her to join the administrative team this year. Mrs. Stumbaugh is unquestionably dedicated to Christian education. She understands that Christian education is an opportunity to instill Christian values through scripture. She is committed to the ideal that teachers are living examples of who Christ is, as they teach about God's world through God's word."

Mrs. Stumbaugh's education and experience include the following:

- Bachelor of Science in Education from University of Arkansas
- Master's Degree in Learning Disabilities from University of Tulsa
- Gifted and Talented and Midmanagement certificates from the University of St. Thomas
- Texas Certification: Elementary Education, Learning Disabilities, Gifted and Talented and Mid-Management
- More than 28 years of experience in curriculum development and classroom instruction

Cypress Christian Students Travel to Spain

Several CCS secondary students had the opportunity to travel to Spain for a ten-day, educational tour this past June.

The students had an incredible time learning about architecture and visiting historical and cultural sights studied in class. The students spoke with native Spaniards on a daily basis, which reinforced grammar and vocabulary as well as boosted their self confidence in speaking. The majority of the students had not traveled outside of the country and this trip provided many opportunities for personal growth, as well as academic benefits.

CCS students who went on the trip included Jessica LeDay, Elisabeth Dunn, Hallie Salmon, Brian Fredrich, Casey Salzar, and Jordyn McCain.



Advertising Information

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Riata Ranch Community Newsletter. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all residents to receive a 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 Office at 888-687-6444 or advertising@PEELinc.com for ad information and pricing.



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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.

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

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Website: Cywoodswrap.org

Meetings - 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm in the Cy Woods Commons (earn 5000 WRAP bucks for parents attending)

NEW Fundraisers that everyone can do:

***GoodSearch.com

GoodSearch.com is a search engine powered by Yahoo. When you run your internet searches using Goodsearch.com they will donate money per search to WRAP. (select WRAP - Wildcats Right After Prom (Cypress Texas) to receive credit for your searches)

***www.goodshop.com

Shop from the GoodShop website. Use the drop down list under 'Who do you GoodShop for' and select WRAP Wildcats Right After Prom (Cypress) Texas) to receive credit for your shopping. A percentage of every purchase will be donated to WRAP.

***SCRIPS - glscrip.com

Scrips is fundraising while you shopTM. This program allows WRAP members to purchase gift cards for everyday expenses like food, clothing, and entertainment; while earning a percentage of each dollar spent back in revenue to WRAP. Place and pick up your orders at the monthly meetings.

More info on these fundraisers is available on the WRAP Website, Cywoodswrap.org Thanks in advance for your help!!



Pumpkin Pie Recipe

Ingredients

1 can pumpkin 1 cup brown sugar

2 eggs, beaten 1/4 tsp. cloves 1 t. salt ½ tsp. ginger 2 t. cinnamon ½ tsp. allspice

1 can evaporated milk

Directions

Combine and mix well. Pour into pie crust. Bake at 425° for 15 minutes; then 350° for about 45 minutes.

If you would like to submit YOUR recipe, email it to articles@peelinc.com.

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Jones Road Campus

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"I referred a friend that was having some issues with her Mercedes to Skeeter's. After their extensive evaluation they realized the problem was covered under her original manufacturer's warranty. They could have easily charged her to repair the vehicle, but didn't. It saved my friend hundreds of dollars. They truly are 'Changing the Image of Auto Repair' at Skeeter's."

- Nichole Ford

Senior Account Manager, CBS Radio Houston



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Pick up and Delivery Service available to all residents of Riata Ranch.

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*. Articles for the newsletter are finalized on the 10th 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.

Help Keep the Storm Drains Clear

Recently, we have received reports of teens throwing items into the storm drains, such as boxes and basketballs. These items can plug the drain and cause flooding when the next storm comes.

If you see this activity, please report it to the Sheriff's Department with the best description of the activity that you can give.

Stopping this activity is important to all of us. It could even keep your home from flooding.

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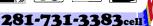
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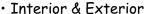












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Neighborhood Section	Active Listings	Pending Listings	Solds	Ave. Days on Market	Ave. Price per Sq. Ft
Section 1	5	-	-	-	-
Section 2	3	-	-	-	-
Section 3	3	-	-	-	-
Section 4	1	ı	-	-	-
Section 5	3	2	ı	-	-
Section 6	2	1	1	-	-
Section 7	2	1	ı	-	-
Section 8	2	ı	1	17	68.97
Section 9	3	1	-	-	-
Section 10	10	-	-	-	-
Section 11	4	-	-	-	-

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