



LAKES

ON ELDRIDGE

Volume 8, Issue 4
April 2009

Official Newsletter
www.lakesoneldridge.net



Lakes on Eldridge *Dolphins* Swim Team News

We have had a great response to our online registration, which closed on March 16. A lot of enthusiastic swimmers age 4 to 18 will be having great fun this summer, while enjoying healthy competition in an atmosphere of growth, training, enjoyment, good sportsmanship and participation!

The LOEST Board has been working very hard to make the 2009 season another roaring success! Please mark your calendars for these upcoming events:
LOE Dolphins 2009 Calendar

APRIL

- 19 Parents Meeting/family Meet
& Greet Party (3-4 Hrs)
- 20-24 Swim Clinic
- 27 First Day Of Swim Practice

MAY

- 2 Time Trials - Concord Bridge
- Loe Pool (Finish By 3)
- 4 Pictures - No Swim Practice
- 15 Pep-rally (7 - 9)
- 16 Home Meet - Fairfield (Finish
By 3 Pm)
- 22 Pep-rally (7-9)
- 23 Away Meet - Deerfield
- 25 No Swim Practice - Memorial
Day
- 29 Pep-rally (7-9)
- 30 Away Meet - Norchester

JUNE

- 5 Pep-rally (7-9)
- 6 Home Meet - Concord Bridge
(Finish By 3 Pm)
- 12 Pep-rally (7-9)
- 13 Away Meet - Jersey Village
- 19 Last Day Of Swim Practice
- 20 Divisionals - Fairfield
- 22 Banquet - Cy Ridge High
School
- 23-25 Swim Practice For Swimmers
Qualifying For Rw&b And
Ponderosa
- 26-28 Rw& B - Cy-springs
- 27,28 Ponderosa - Klein High
School

Please visit our website at www.loedolphins.org for up to date information.

(Continued on Page 2)



CONTACT NUMBERS NEEDED

The resident directory is currently being updated, and we need to know your telephone number! As part of the continuing process to improve the quality of access control, gate attendants will be asked to contact the homeowner before visitors are allowed entry to our community. If no phone number is on file, and if the visitor cannot provide it, access cannot be granted. Please contact the main gate at 713-937-8825 to make sure that your contact number is on file. Thanks!

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IMPORTANT NUMBERS

AMI	713-932-1122
Gate Attendant.....	713-937-8825
Waterfowl, Betty Burkett.....	713-302-9929
Sheriff - (non-emergency).....	713-221-6000
Cy-Fair Fire Department - (emergency).....	281-466-6161
(non-emergency)	281-550-6663
Poison Control.....	1-800-764-7661
Texas DPS.....	713-681-1761
Waste Management.....	713-695-4055
(trash collection Mondays & Thursdays)	
Aqua Source.....	713-983-3602
(Service or emergencies 24hrs).....	713-983-3604
Harris County Tax Office.....	713-224-1919
Reliant Energy.....	713-207-7777
(give pole # of street which is out)	
Entex (gas)	713-659-2111
Time Warner Cable.....	713-462-9000
Houston Chronicle	713-220-7211
Metro Transit Info.....	713-635-4000
Kirk Elementary.....	713-849-8250
Truitt Middle School.....	281-856-1100
Cy-Falls High School	281-856-1000
Cy-Ridge High School	281-807-8000
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Peel, Inc.	advertising@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444

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:

Bronson Clay	President
Carlton Thorpe	Vice President
Clive Gardner.....	Secretary
Cory Hammond	Treasurer
Heather Von Sternberg.....	At large

Visit the Association Website:
www.lakesoneldridge.net

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LOE Dolphin Team - (Continued from Cover Page)

The Board Position for Secretary/Hospitality is still open. This is a great opportunity to get involved and help to make LOEST a continuing success! If you would like to get more information on the position please contact Rosa Clay at rosaclay@sbcglobal.net. Should you have any questions or further inquiries regarding the upcoming 2009 LOEST Season, please contact any of the Board Members listed on our website www.loedolphins.org.

SUGGESTION BOX

Have you ever wanted to make a suggestion to the LOE Board of Directors but don't know how to go about it? Well, they have now made it very easy and convenient for you. The Board has placed a SUGGESTION BOX in the Member Section of the LOE website, www.lakesoneldridge.com. Please type in any suggestions for the Board to review and discuss. This Suggestion Box goes directly to the Board members and after such discussion; one of the members will be in contact with you. Please note that you may be called upon to be a part of the solution to the suggestion you make.

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LAKEs ON ELDRIDGE

Year in Review

2007 *vs* 2008

Price Range	Under 600K		\$600,000 Plus	
Year	2007	2008	2007	2008
Number of Sales	50	44	5	6
Avg. List Price	\$369,598	\$362,617	\$842,979	\$829,416
Avg. Sales Price	\$359,208	\$348,797	\$814,780	\$809,399
Avg. Sq. Footage	3,467	3,406	4,850	5,217
Avg. Price per Sq. Ft.	\$103.61	\$102.41	\$168.00	\$155.15
Days on Market	45	70	98	84
SP/LP Ratio	97%	97%	98%	98%

All information based on HAR/MLS data 01/01/07 to 12/31/08.

*If you are considering selling, I would love to interview for the job
and review the specific information related to your home.*

Ann Knoche

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Lakes on Eldridge

PRESEASON ANNOUNCEMENT 2009

Greater Houston Pool Management, Inc.

Greater Houston Pool Management, Inc. was founded on three guiding principles: safety, customer service and cleanliness. With safety as our # 1 priority, we spend a great deal of time, energy and money making sure that every GHPMI team member has the appropriate tools to be successful. We also feel it's important that when you visit the swimming pool, you are greeted by a smiling, friendly, and professional lifeguard team. Equally as important to us is the overall cleanliness of your facility. Clear and properly maintained pool water, clean and pleasant smelling restrooms, and a debris free pool deck are qualities that top our expectation list.

Our team has worked diligently in the off season to provide a facility you can proudly visit. The GHPMI Activities Department is excited to offer your community programs that will help enhance your family's summer experience. GHPMI provides a variety of programs, such as: group and private learn to swim classes, Guard Start, water aerobics, pool parties and more. For a detailed list of what is available at your facility please visit us at www.takeaswimlesson.com for classes, and www.haveapoolparty.com for pool parties. If something is not offered at your facility, please let us know. We make every effort to accommodate all requests. We want your visit to the pool to be a safe and positive experience.

We at GHPMI feel that communication



plays a very important role to the overall success of the summer swim season. Every year we receive compliments on our proactive and preventative approach. By taking preventative measures we feel that you and your guests will have a sense of real comfort while visiting your swimming facility. We understand that communication is a two way street, and appreciate any and all questions, comments and/or concerns you may have throughout the summer. Therefore, please don't hesitate to contact our office at anytime, 713.771.7665. You may also visit us online at www.greaterhoustonpool.com. Also, please take the time to introduce yourself to your lifeguard team. We truly

enjoy getting to know the members we so proudly serve.

Finally, allow us to start the swim season off on a positive note by providing some valuable safety reminders. With your support we are confident that the 2009 swim season will be a safe and positive experience for all.

- Parents must closely supervise their children at all times. Remember, it only takes seconds for a child to drown. Do not dive in areas marked "NO DIVING". Nearly 90 percent of all spinal injuries occur in the shallow end of the pool.
- Breath holding games can be very dangerous and may cause cardiac arrhythmia or seizures. Games like who can hold their breath the longest, and swimming the longest distance underwater should be avoided at all times.
- Don't allow children to play with or around the main drain. The main drain suction can be very powerful, and has been known to cause severe injuries, and in some cases death.
- The safety of the children in the baby pool is the parents' or guardians' responsibility. The lifeguards will always enforce the pool rules throughout the facility, but children who cannot swim must have an adult within arms reach at all times.

(Continued on Page 6)



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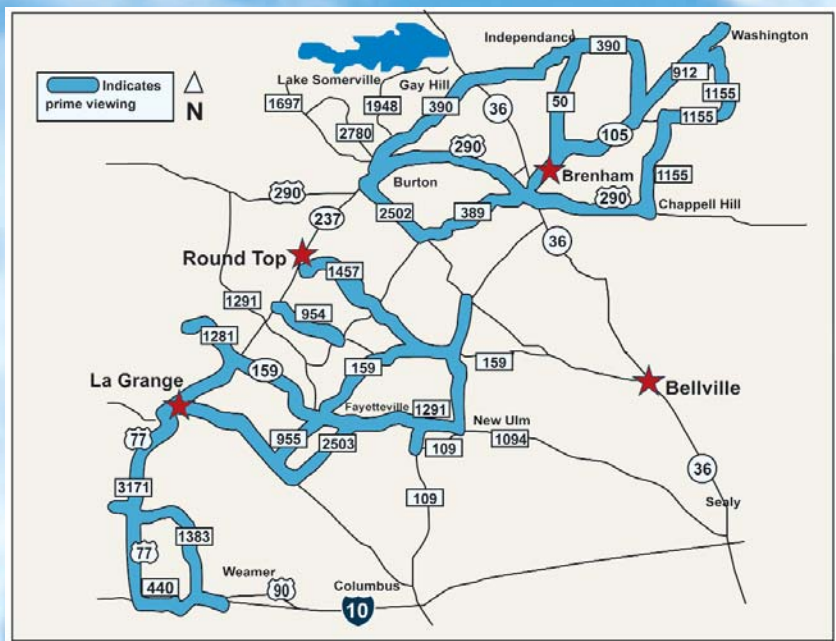


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Lakes on Eldridge

Preseason Announcement- (Continued from Page 4)

The same rule applies even if the child is wearing a floatation device.

- Define a safe zone for your children where they can always touch the bottom. One of the most common saves a lifeguard must make is when a swimmer strays to an area that is too deep for them to stand.
- Access rules to the facility will be strongly enforced and is the responsibility of each member to understand and follow. It is a very awkward and uncomfortable situation for everyone, when a lifeguard must ask a member to go back home to get the appropriate access tag.
- Remember that there are several different types of people who like to use the pool throughout the summer. Both young and old, everyone wants to have a good time.
- If you should ever have a question about the pool rules, ask a lifeguard or manager. It is better to be safe than sorry!
- Help educate you community members and their guests on water safety. A team approach towards safety will offer a safer swimming environment.

The GHPMI Team is extremely excited to be servicing your community for the 2009 swim season. We sincerely look forward to successfully operating your swimming facility, while offering a safe and relaxing environment.

Reminder - Waterfowl Cruelty is a FELONY

Mistreating or injuring the waterfowl is a FELONY according to the Texas Wildlife Department. Children have been seen in the past poking sticks at the swans and throwing objects at them. The police will be called on any person taunting or throwing items at any waterfowl no matter what their age. Remember this is a FELONY, which will remain on one's police record for a long time. Please warn your children to leave the waterfowl alone. They are here to add beauty to our neighborhood, not to be injured. Should any resident see mistreatment of the waterfowl, call the police first, and then call AMI who will give you the number of the people who are caretakers of the waterfowl.

Article Submissions

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 to news@lakesoneldridge.net. This information should include your name. All information should be received no later than the 10th of the month and is subject to editorial approval as well as space limitations.

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SWANS CAN BE DANGEROUS

It's springtime again, and you can expect to see some new arrivals of cygnets on our lakes. Mother Nature provides our LOE swans with some common sense. At this time of year they feel the need to protect their territory against predators including humans, dogs, and waterfowl. Our cob (male) will become aggressive and territorial in trying to protect his pen (female) and nest. This is usually temporary until mating season is over. If you are walking past a lake and a swan swims to your side and follows you, BEWARE! If you see a swan with his neck back and feathers up, like in this photograph, please stay away, do not attempt to feed him, and walk on the other side of the street as he is in his ATTACK position. Please warn your nannies and sitters not to stroll babies around the swans. We must try to remember that the swans are merely protecting their territory and readying the area for their young. We need to be as cautious of them as they are of us. Thank you for your cooperation.



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Lakes on Eldridge

LOE Quiz Night Saturday, June 20th, 2008

After the success of last year's LOE quiz night, we're doing it again! Lakes on Eldridge residents and their friends are invited to meet at the Beach Club, Lakes on Eldridge on Saturday June 20th for an evening of fascinating and fun-filled friendly fact-finding and frivolity.

Either come on your own, or with a partner, or bring a group of up to 10 people and we will organize you into teams. Teams of 6-10 people will compete for an attractive team prize, by answering a series of questions in various categories, to include Local Knowledge, Food and Drink, Music and more.

Arrive at 7:30 pm, for seating of teams at 8 o'clock, and commencement of the Quiz questions shortly thereafter. The final scores should be available around 10 pm and the winners will then be announced.

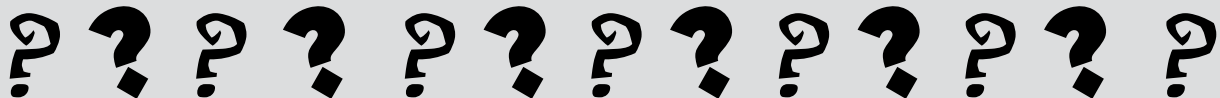
Complimentary drinks on arrival and nibbles

will be provided; please feel free to bring a plateful of interesting finger-food to add to the party mood. Additional liquid refreshment is BYO. This is primarily an adult event, but teenagers would be welcome to join their parents.

Please register if possible by end May. If you require more details, and to register, contact:

Eleanor Liney: 713-937-6424 e-mail: eleanor.liney@sbcglobal.net. Later registrations may be accepted if there is still space available.

This popular event gets neighbors and newcomers quickly engaged in earnest discussion over the correct answers; but remember the Quiz Master is always right; no arguing with the referee! And no electronic cheat-machines! Pit your wits and amaze yourself with your knowledge; or if that doesn't quite work out, enjoy the losers' booby prize!



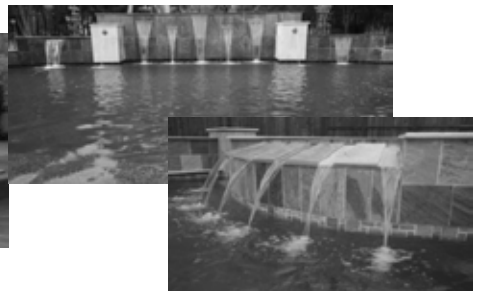
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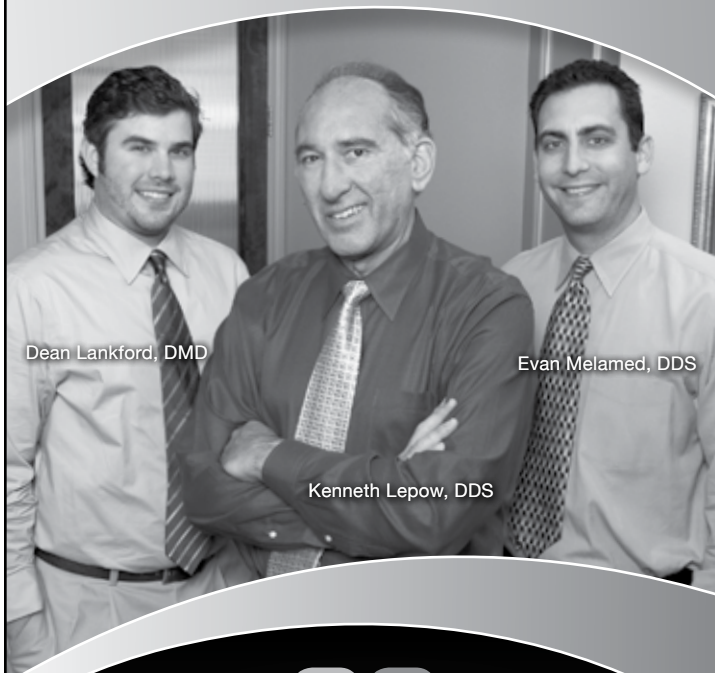
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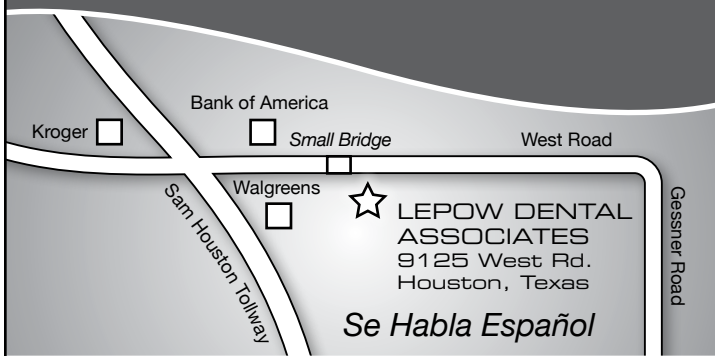
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Be a Volunteer Firefighter

The Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Department is currently accepting applications at all its fire stations for new volunteer firefighters. The Cy-Fair VFD provides community based fire, EMS, and rescue services for 156 sq miles of Northwest Harris County using 12 fire stations. We provide all the necessary training and equipment needed. We have members from all walks of life including doctors, lawyers, bankers, realtors, career firefighters, teachers, mechanics, welders, nurses, and stay at home parents. The only requirements are to have your high school diploma or GED, be 18 yrs old, and pass a drug and background check.

Stations meet on Thursday nights at 7pm to conduct training. Additionally, members are able to sign-up for duty nights to staff the station or respond from their home.

The Fire Department provides insurance and worker's comp coverage for members when they are performing Department activities. We also have a length of service program that provides a retirement benefit to members.

We will be hosting open houses this month to provide more information:

April 13th at 7pm: CFVFD Station 10 located at 11310 Steeplecrest and West Rd (just West of Jones Road)

April 19th at 7pm: CFVFD Station 11 located at 18132 West Rd approx. 1 mile west of Barker-Cypress near Lone Star College-Cy-Fair

April 21th at 7pm: CFVFD Station 9 located at 7922 Hwy 6 and Longenbaugh

You may also call our Office at 281-550-6663 or visit us online at: www.cyfairvfd.org

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Landscaping Upgrades

Recently two major landscape initiatives were implemented to improve our community – mulching and live oak trimming. LOE's holly bushes and beds had not been mulched in many years. We implemented this program to improve the health and appearance of our plants. The live oak trees that we all enjoy so much had never been trimmed since the community was founded. This year we are focusing on the 300+ trees that are along the major thoroughfares. Our goal is to remove dead branches and raise the canopy to the heights required by emergency vehicles. All trees should provide 15 feet of clearance. Obviously our trees had grown significantly below that limit. In 2010 we will trim the trees along Turkey Creek and the entrances to neighborhoods. We hope you enjoy our landscaping upgrades.

PLEASE LET US KNOW!

If you know of a LOE resident who has had any outstanding awards, milestones or accomplishments, please let us know at news@lakesoneldridge.net so they may be recognized in the newsletter.

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Stitch & Chat

HELPING YOU GET STARTED

Residents of Lakes on Eldridge that would be interested in learning to knit, crochet, do needlepoint or embroidery, please join us on any Thursday at the Beach Clubhouse from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. We will be happy to help you get started. Some of our members don't even sew; they just drop by for coffee and to chat. Please come join us.

For more information contact Catherine Spellings at 713-896-1652 (home) or 713-628-7083 (cell) or CTSpellings@aol.com or Tina Wang at 713-574-1654 or Yangingwang20022003@yahoo.com



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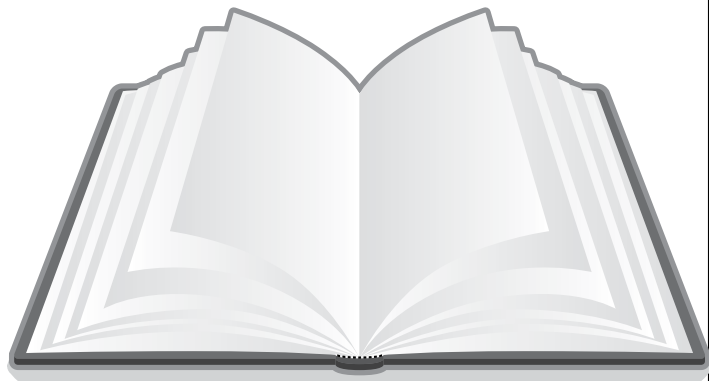
Benefiting The Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts

Barnes & Noble Book Sellers at Champions Village will be sponsoring a Book Fair May 2 & 3, 2009. This is an opportunity for our community to support the Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts (the Pearl) at no additional cost while shopping at Barnes & Noble. Winning art from the Pearl's 2009 Student Art Contest will be on display at Barnes & Noble on Saturday, May 2. There will also be an art project for the kids and balloons.

Please support the Pearl by shopping at Barnes & Noble at Champions Village, 5303 FM 1960 West, for all of your book needs. For these two days, you can use a special Book Fair voucher that is available on line at www.pearlmfa.org. Or if you forget your voucher, just let them know at checkout that you want to support the Pearl. It is that easy. A small percentage of all your in-store purchases (including cheesecakes) will benefit the Pearl. Just remember, you must either submit the voucher at time of purchase or tell the cashier that you want your purchase to support the Pearl.

Cheesecake Factory cheesecakes are available from the Barnes & Noble Café and can be pre-ordered for pick-up and paid for on May 2 & 3. This is a delicious and easy Mother's Day dessert and supports the Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts at the same time. Cheesecakes can be frozen for later use.

Please stop by Barnes & Noble during our Book Fair. It is a great opportunity to learn about our wonderful fine arts museum right that is right here in the Cypress Creek area and to support the museum at the same time. For more information, please visit us online at www.pearlmfa.org or call 281-376-6322.



Ram Athletes Charging to College Scholarship Dinner and a Show!

Make plans to attend the Cypress Ridge Rams Athletic Scholarship Dinner and Show on Wednesday, April 22 at 6:30 p.m. Dinner will be served by Carl's Barbecue and the evening will feature performances by the Cypress Ridge Dazzler Dance Team, Mighty Ram Band and Cheerleaders, along with a special performance by the faculty band, Staff Infection. All proceeds will go directly to the Rams Athletic Scholarship Fund, providing college scholarships for male and female athletes. Pre-sale tickets are \$10 and \$12 at the door. Order yours today by contacting Belinda Kubeczka at 281-807-8024 or Belinda.kubeczka@cfisd.net. Cypress Ridge High School is located at 7900 North Eldridge in Houston. Don't miss the fun and the opportunity to support our Ram athletes charging to college.

ATTENTION! BUNCO JUNKIES!

This year we are playing "Bunco" from 12 noon until 2 pm once a month on the 1st Thursday of each month at the LOE Beach Clubhouse.

We need twelve players each month to have these tables. The first 12 people to sign up will make up our core group. We will need substitutes for those people who will not be able to play each month.

Contact Catherine Spellings at 713-896-1652 or 713-628-7083 or CTSpellings@aol.com for more information.

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Lakes on Eldridge



Change for Change *Cypress Christian School Students Raise Money for Orphanage*

When students in Miss Shelby's second grade class started studying money in math, they learned a two-fold lesson: how to count change and how to change someone's life.

Students were encouraged to bring their dimes, nickels, and pennies to class during a two-week mission project called "Change to Change the World for Jesus" The goal of the project was to raise money for His Cherished Ones, an orphanage in Africa run by former CCS teacher Trena Ivy.

"When the students saw the pictures on Miss Ivy's blog of poor African children without shoes or food, they were inspired and motivated," said Miss Shelby. "They gave their Christmas money and money from their own piggy banks. The students also chose to give up their snacks at school and donate the money to the project." As a result of their efforts, the class collected more than \$1000 to send to the orphanage.

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office hours

Mon-Tues 8am-8pm
Wed, Thurs, Fri 8am-5pm
Saturday 8am-1pm
Sunday Noon-3pm

290 LOCATION:

Mon-Fri 8am-5pm
Saturday 9am-12pm

meet our team

Huong T Le, MD
Quoc Le, MD
Alex Nguyen, MD
Blandina Sison, MD
Marian Allan, MD
Anthony Yee-Young, MD
Diana Malone, MD
Shital Patel, MD
Heidi Nashed-Guigis, MD
Luz Marquez, MD
Jennifer Dong, MD
Haley Nguyen, MD
Tami Berckenhoff, PA-C
Brandi Valenzuela, PA-C
Sydney Payne, PA-C

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for the
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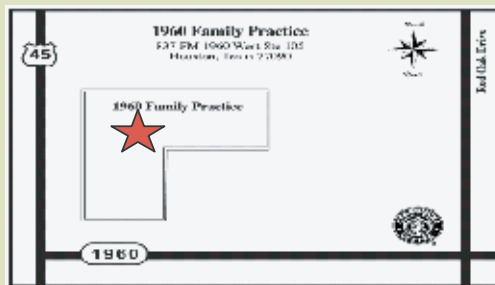
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Pictures on the above items can be sent by email: contact antqartmore@sbcglobal.net

MOTHERWISE

The MotherWise group meets every other Monday at the Beach Club beginning at 7:00 pm. The meetings begin with prayer and the presentation of the study segment, followed by small group prayer time for those who wish to participate, and concludes with social time and refreshments. The MotherWise meetings are a wonderful way to meet other mothers in our neighborhood, gain some spiritual enrichment, and support one another in prayer.

The leaders of the MotherWise group are Kathy Prusak (713-937-7707) and Elizabeth Tobin (832-467-1369). Please feel free to contact us for further information about MotherWise and the 2009 schedule. We hope to see you at the Beach Club!

LOE BIBLE STUDY

The Bible study group gathers at 9:15 am on Tuesdays for coffee and fellowship. The discussion lesson begins around 9:30 and ends at 11:30. On the first Tuesday of each month we go out to lunch. Send your name address and telephone number to sableggett@sbcglobal.net to register. If you don't use email, call Stephanie at 713-560-0042. Hope to see you there!

Sustainable Living Houston Kicks Off National Bike Month!

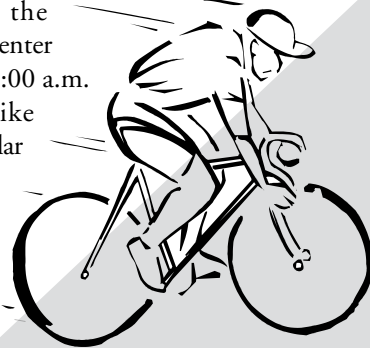
On Friday, May 1, 2009, residents of Cypress, Texas, will bicycle from the Coles Crossing subdivision to the nearby METRO Park & Ride and transit oriented development. By riding bikes to the Park & Ride, and then taking the #217 METRO bus to their work locations, the residents will complete a long-haul, suburb-to-city multi-modal commute without the use of private automobiles.

METRO has recently installed bike racks at the Cypress Park & Ride, and these will be used to secure the bicycles. There is also limited space for taking a few bikes in the sub-floor storage compartments of the # 217 buses.

Residents will assemble at 6:50 am on Friday, May 1, 2009 at the Coles Crossing Community Center parking lot and depart at 7:00 am sharp. Use of helmets, front & rear lights, red rear reflectors and articles of reflective clothing will be mandatory. Residents will ride on the sidewalk south on Barker-Cypress Rd. to Jarvis Rd., whereupon the group will transition to riding on Jarvis Rd. in a vehicular cycling mode. The total ride distance will be about a mile each way, and the time to the Park & Ride from the neighborhood will be about 6 minutes.

The rain date for this ride is May 15, 2009.

There will be a highly recommended pre-ride safety briefing at the Coles Crossing Community Center parking lot on April 25th at 8:00 a.m. where helmets, lighting, bike commuter clothing, and vehicular cycling will be discussed, as well as a test ride of the route. This briefing will be led by a League of American Bicyclist certified cycling instructor.



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

*Solution at www.PEELinc.com

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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 Peel, Inc. Sales Office at 512-263-9181; advertising@PEELinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 10th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

PLEASE SCOOP YOUR DOG'S POOP!

There are a few dog owners in our neighborhood that do not pick up after their dogs. PLEASE!! We have a beautiful community and it is such a shame to walk in the park and be confronted with some lazy, inconsiderate neighbor's dog's mess much less step in it. Everyone has an extra plastic bag in their home; just grab one before you leave the house for your walk. PLEASE SCOOP YOUR DOG'S POOP!



At no time will any source be allowed to use the Lakes on Eldridge Newsletter contents, or loan said contents, to others in anyway, shape or form, nor in any media, website, print, film, e-mail, electrostatic copy, fax, or etc. for the purpose of solicitation, commercial use, or any use for profit, political campaigns, or other self amplification, under penalty of law without written or expressed permission from Peel, Inc. The information in the newsletter is exclusively for the private use of Lakes on Eldridge residents only.

Spring Is In the Air *Time to Start Your Own Organic Garden*

Submitted by LCRA

In a world of iPod's, computer games, and DVDs, gardens are our nearest gateway to nature. Planting an organic garden with your family or friends builds relationships as well as stronger connections to the land, weather, and plants of Texas.

When looking for a garden site in your yard, choose an area with a good six to eight hours of sunlight and access to water. If you have shallow or poor soil, consider creating raised beds. Decide the garden's design by drawing shapes on paper and thinking about how you might arrange flowers, herbs, and vegetables within those shapes.

You may want to read through regional gardening books and seed catalogs when choosing plants. Native plants will be much easier to grow and keep healthy, and native flowering plants attract hummingbirds and butterflies. Avoid toxic plants, and consider aromatic herbs and edible plants. If you choose to start some plants from seed, create garden markers using either names or drawings to

help recognize the plants when they germinate.

Find sturdy gardening tools. Many nurseries and garden centers sell spades and rakes in various sizes - make sure you find one that fits you best. Avoid digging with hand trowels unless the soil is very friable, or you are working in pots—small hands and wrists tire easily.

Use soaker hoses with timers to keep soil moist while your seeds are germinating. Keep a calendar to record when you plant seeds and when they germinate. Place a rain gauge in the garden to keep track of showers. Find a magnifying glass to peer at leaves, flowers, and insects in your garden.

Keep your garden safe for everyone by avoiding the use of toxic landscape chemicals. Visit www.growgreen.org for information on less toxic landscaping.

Finally, celebrate your harvest of wildflower bouquets, herbs for cooking, and tasty vegetables. Organic gardening is a lot of fun and very rewarding.



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Top 5 Green Cleaning Tips



Cleaner, greener, meaner As the health and environmental impacts of conventional cleaning products become more thoroughly understood, more and more brands of healthy, green, and effective cleaning products have started hitting the market and competing for that coveted place of honor under your sink. Many of these products are non-toxic, biodegradable, and made from renewable resources (not petroleum). But if designer labels aren't for you, home-mixed cleaners can get the job done and then some. Vinegar and baking soda can be used to clean almost anything. Mix in a little warm water with either of these and you've got yourself an all-purpose cleaner.

Clean peace Skip the store-bought air fresheners and instead try boiling cinnamon, cloves, or any other herbs you have a fondness for. Fresh chocolate chip cookies also have been known to create a friendly aroma. Also, plants may not make your house smell different but are good for filtering interior air--pretty much any broad green leaf plant will do. Peace Lilies are a favorite choice.

The toxic toss When replacing your cleaning products, don't just throw the old ones in the trash. If they're too toxic for your home, they won't be good for the drain or the landfill either. Many communities hold toxics & electronics recycling days and will take all of these off your hands. Throwing chemicals in the trash or down the drain means they might end up back in your water supply and come back to haunt you.

Drycleaners: Conventional drycleaners are the largest users of the industrial solvent called Perchloroethylene, or perc, which is toxic to humans and also creates smog. The two most common green dry-cleaning methods are carbon dioxide cleaning and Green Earth. Seek out cleaners that use green methods. If you do take clothes to conventional cleaners, be sure to air them outside before wearing them or putting them in the closet.

Think
GREEN



Leave the toxins at the door: Imagine what's on your shoes at the end of the day. Bringing that oil, antifreeze, animal waste, particulate pollution, pollen, and who knows what else into the house is not good news, especially for kids and other critters that spend time on floor level. Keep the sidewalk out of your home with a good doormat or a shoeless house policy. Many green buildings now include entryway track-off systems as a means of maintaining a healthy interior environment. Less dirt also means less sweeping, mopping, and vacuuming, which means less work, water, energy, and fewer chemicals.



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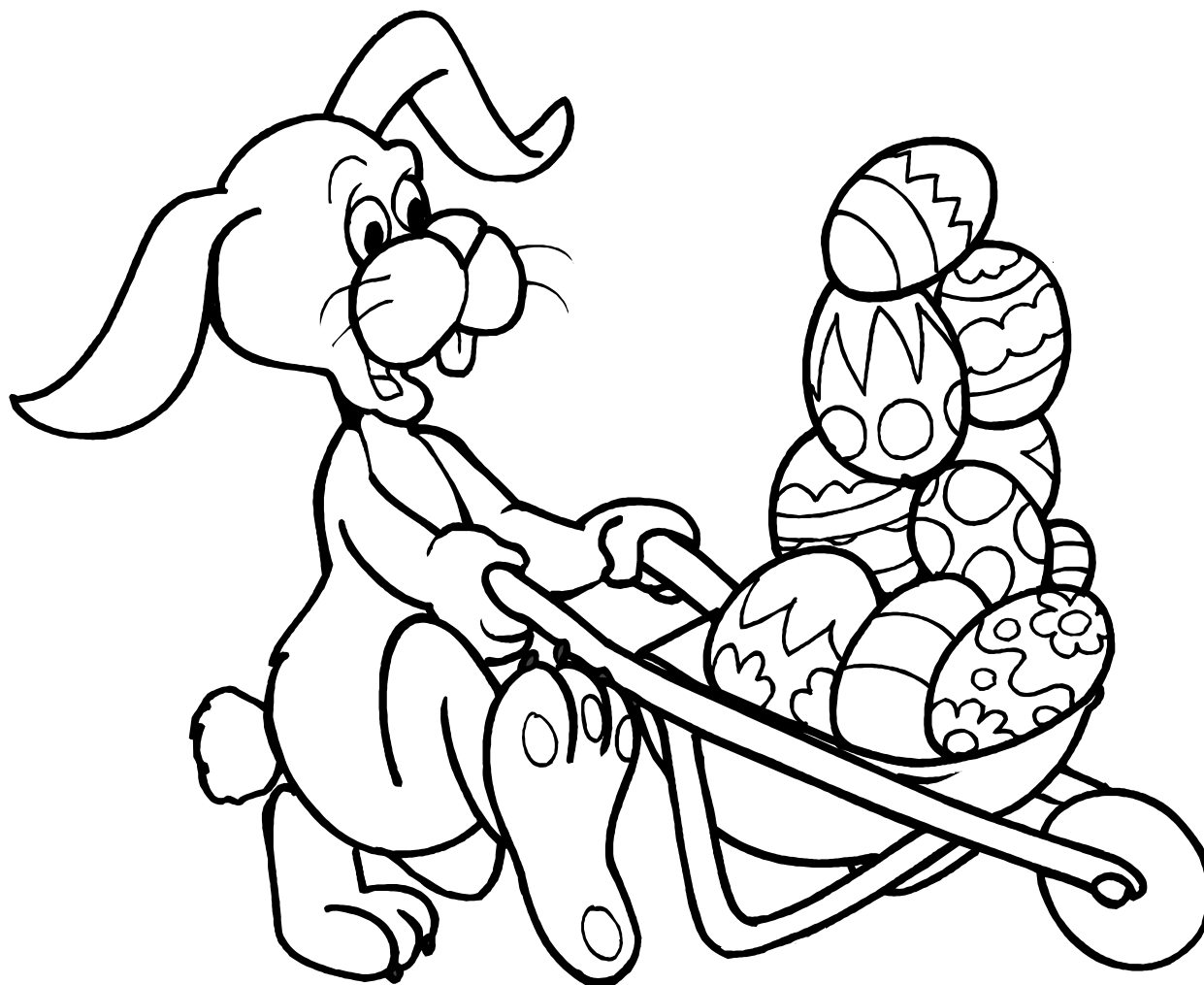
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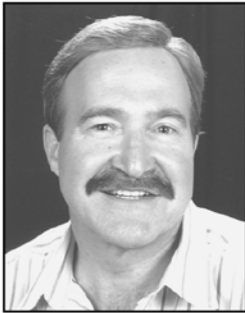
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| 1. Infrared camera inspection looking for mold and mildew | 11. Tighten all electrical connections |
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| 3. Monitor volts/amps on fan motor | 13. Inspect electrical for exposed wiring |
| 4. Lubricate/inspect motor bearings for wear | 14. Test and inspect capacitors |
| 5. Inspect indoor coil if accessible | 15. Inspect condenser fan blade |
| 6. Flush/treat condensate drain with anti-algae tablets | 16. Water wash condenser coil and remove debris |
| 7. Inspect condenser coil for efficiency | 17. Inspect service valves for proper operation and for leaks |
| 8. Monitor operating pressure of refrigerant | 18. Measure temperature difference between supply/return |
| 9. Inspect safety devices for proper operation | 19. Inspect blower wheel for balance and dust |
| 10. Inspect disconnect box for proper rating and installation | 20. Monitor compressor for proper amperage, volt draw and wiring connections |



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