

The Ranch Review

www.riataranch.net

September 2009

Volume 4, Issue 9

Official Publication of Riata Ranch Homeowners Association

Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club

WANTED!

A few good golf teams!

Women and men who bring their own team of players or singles who will be pared with other singles who want to play needed to participate in the Florida Scramble Golf Tournament. The date of this annual Kiwanis golf tournament is Thursday, October 22 with a 1:00 pm shotgun start. Registration begins at 11:30 am at Cypress Lakes Golf Course, "Home of the best greens in southeast Texas," followed by a putting contest at 12:00 pm. Contributions of \$100 per player or \$150 hole sponsor are welcome. All profits from the tournament will be used to sponsor youth in our community through service projects such as Key Clubs, boy and girl scout troops, scholarships, HOBY, etc. For further information, call Steve Caton at 713-985-3440 or see the entry form in this paper.

The Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club meets three times a month at the Hearthstone Country Club in Hearthstone from 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. for lunch, and programs including guest speakers on subjects of concern to the community and individuals. We invite you to a complimentary lunch, fellowship with our members, an informative program, and an opportunity to learn more about our organization. Reservations are not required. The Club will meet on September 1, 15, and 22. Notice that there is no meeting on the second Tuesday because of the Labor Day holiday.

Membership in Kiwanis is open to persons of good character who adhere to the standards of good conduct in their community and believe in and subscribe to the objects of Kiwanis International. If you would like to know more about Kiwanis and the service programs it promotes, call John Carroll at 281-463-0373; George Crowl at 832-467-1998; or Robert Presnell at 281-304-7127.

CHILDREN: PRIORITY ONE is the motto of Kiwanis Clubs worldwide. The Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club, an affiliate of the International Kiwanis organization, focuses its services, programs and activities on this theme.

Kiwanis Worldwide Children's Charities

Kiwanis International
"Serving the Children of the World"



Kiwanis Club of Cy-Fair – Houston

24th Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Thursday Oct. 22, 2009 - Cypress Lakes Golf Club

(18700 Cypresswood Drive - 281-304-8515)

Florida Scramble – Four Players per team

Registration 11:30 am

Putting Contest 12:00pm Shotgun Start at 1:00pm

\$100 per Player • \$150 Hole Sponsor

Golf Sponsors: Dinner Sponsor Recognition + 4 Players (\$1000)

Hole in One Contest

Special Prizes • Door Prizes • Silent Auction • Refreshments

Awards after Play • Dinner by Demeris BBQ

SIGN-UP AS A TEAM OR AS AN INDIVIDUAL

We'll pair you up ...

Name _____ **Handicap** _____

Player #1 _____

Player #2 _____

Player #3 _____

Player #4 _____

Please make checks payable to:

KIWANIS

c/o Steve Caton, 143 Plantation, Houston, TX 77024

Kiwanis is a 501(c)3, non-profit organization. FMV is \$50pp.

FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL

STEVE CATON AT 713-985-3440

Riata Ranch

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY

Sheriff.....713-221-6000
 Fire Department.....281-855-1110
 Cy-Fair Medical Center281-890-4285
 Memorial City Hospital.....713-932-3000
 Poison Control800-222-1222

SCHOOLS

Cypress Fairbanks ISD.....281-897-4000
 Posta Elementary281-345-3660
 Spillane Middle281-216-1645
 Cy-Fair High281-897-4600
 Cy-Falls High281-856-1000
 Cy-Woods High281-213-1800
 Cy-Fair College.....281-290-3200

UTILITIES

HCMUD #196
 Billing.....281-579-4500
 Repairs281-398-8211
 Centerpoint Electric713-207-2222
 Centerpoint Entex Gas713-659-2111
 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 Office800-275-8777

LIBRARY

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

NEWSLETTER INFO

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

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

ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

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.

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

dspaw@scsmgmt.com

Association Manager

SCS Management Services, Inc.

7170 Cherry Park Dr.

Houston Texas 77095

Direct phone: (281) 500-7102

Direct fax: (281) 500-7172

RiataRanch.net

Don't want to wait for the mail?

View the current issue of The Ranch Review on the 1st day each month at www.PEELinc.com



PUMPKIN PATCH

Open Saturdays & Sundays in October 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
 Admission: \$3.00/person (age 2 & up)

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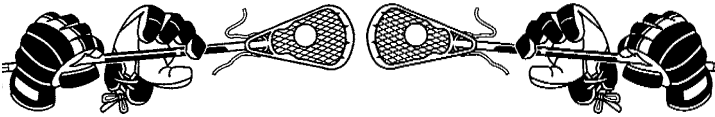
CY-FAIR IRON MAIDENS LACROSSE CLUB

The Cy-fair Iron Maidens Lacrosse Club will be holding a free, introductory Lacrosse clinic on Saturday September 12, 2009 for girls entering grades 4 to 12. No equipment required. Just bring yourself, your running shoes, and a parent. Equipment will be available for the participants' use during the clinic.

What is Lacrosse? Lacrosse is a combination of soccer, basketball, and field hockey all in one. It is a fast paced and exciting game to play and to watch.

Why Lacrosse? Lacrosse is a great option for girls looking for a fast paced alternative to the "traditional" women's team sports. Over the past 10 years Lacrosse has been the fastest growing High School sport in the nation. Lacrosse is also the fastest growing NCAA sport with an annual player participation growth rate of 10% for the past 6 years.

*So come and see what all the excitement's about!
Maybe you'll win a prize!!! We'll be there, just LAX'n.*



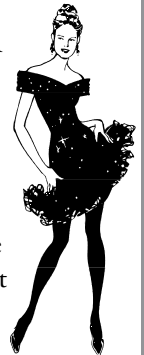
Exciting Events

Hosted By

Cy-fair Republican Women

Sept. 8 - Come join us at Carraba's Italian Grill on Hwy 6 between Longenbaugh and FM 529 for an informative talk by Melinda Biersdorfer, Harris County Probation Officer. Coffee and social beginning at 10:30 AM, speaker and lunch beginning at 11:00 AM. RSVP on the website cfrw.net or call Mary Moss at 281-550-9415

Oct. 2 - HIGH HEELS AND HIGH TEA - this not-to-be-missed event is a luncheon, fashion show and shopping day all wrapped up into one. Come get to know your local officials and other women in the club. The event will be held at the beautiful Houston National Golf Club in the Stonegate subdivision. See our website for more details - cfrw.net or call Mary Moss at 281-550-9415.



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(between Champions Dr. & Champions Forrest Dr.)

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Lone Star College - *CyFair 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:

Teens Driver's Education Available this Fall

Fall driver's education courses for teens ages 15 to 18 are available at Mondays through Thursdays at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sept. 8 (Sept. 7 is Labor Day holiday) through Oct. 5 and at 6 p.m. Oct. 12 through Nov. 5 and Nov. 9 through Dec. 7 (except Thanksgiving holiday Nov. 26). The in-classroom (permit) driver's education course covers road rules, road signs, and laws to prepare the teens for the Department of Public Safety's written exam. Other topics are car maintenance, effects of drugs and alcohol, laws and penalties for drinking and driving, emergency situations, basic driving procedures, road rage, and insurance. Parents are responsible for the in-car instruction. Students are required to purchase the Texas Traffic Safety Education Student Manual, which is available at the campus bookstore. Call 281-290-5242 for information.

"2009 Faculty Art Exhibition" in the Bosque Gallery

Check out the artistic talent of full-time and adjunct art faculty from LSC-CyFair and LSC-Fairbanks Center this fall. This exhibition will be on display Sept. 8 through Sept. 24 in the Bosque Gallery

with an opening reception at 4:30 p.m. Sept. 10. Go to LoneStar.edu/bosquegallery for gallery hours and information.

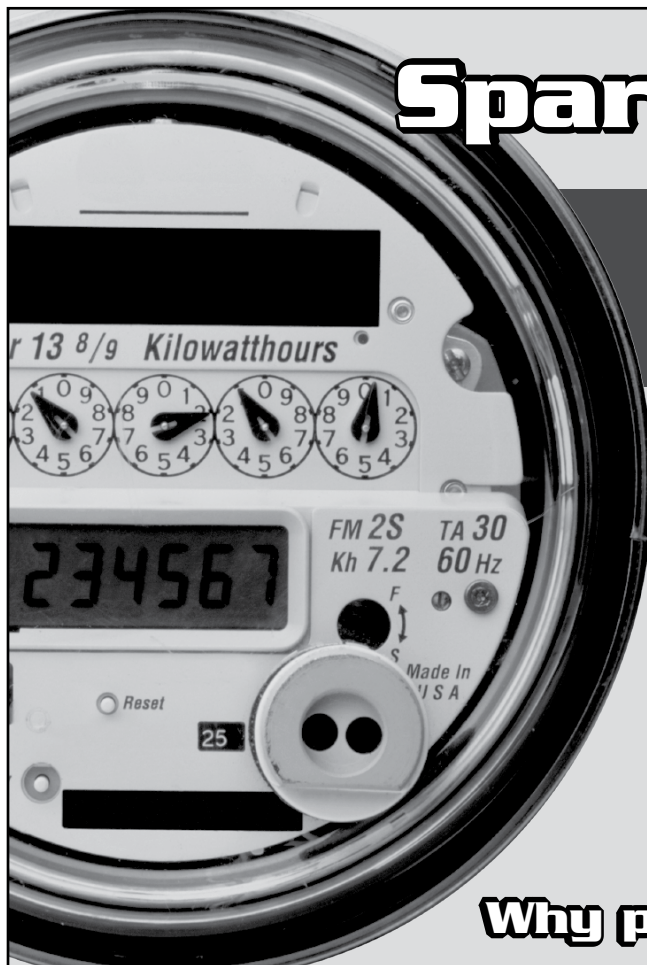
L.I.F.E. Lessons in September

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.) Programs in September include: flavors of Autumn Sept. 2, organ donation Sept. 9, preview of "Crowns" Sept. 16, travel tips Sept. 23 and new features on Cragislist Sept. 30. Call the library at 281-290-3213 for L.I.F.E. program information or go online to LoneStar.edu.

An Evening of ComedySportz

Enjoy comic improvisation at its best. "It's not stand-up comedy about sports ... it's improv comedy played as a sport!" This free event will be held at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 17 in the Main Stage Theatre. Go to Lonestar.edu/student-activities for information on this or other LSC-CyFair Student Activities events or call 281-290-3270.

(Continued on Page 5)



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Why pay more than you have to?

Lone Star College - (Continued from Page 4)

Mark Your Calendars for Fifth Annual Cy-Fest

Lone Star College-CyFair will host the fifth annual community day for all ages in the Cy-Fair community Saturday, Oct. 10. Cy-Fest, the college's gift to the community, is a day of free food, festivities and family fun! There are games, entertainment, face painting, hay rides, moonwalks, a petting zoo and more. To help celebrate the five-year anniversary, Radio Disney will also be on site. For information go online to LoneStar.edu.

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BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS

THERE IS CASH IN YOUR CLOSETS! Upscale family consignment event in NW Houston community this FALL! Let us help you stretch your budget! Consign, Shop, Volunteer! Come join the FUN! Great resource for MOMS-TO-BE!! <http://nwhouston.rhealana.com> or tammy@rhealana.com



Cypress Connection
Community Message Board & Neighborhood Networking Site

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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 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.

NOTICE: TO ALL DOGS

Woof, Woof, Bark, Ruff, Ruff, Woof, Woof, Wag!.....
Wag!.....Wag! *Bark, Riata Ranch*

Translated for dog caregivers:

Listen, you always have to wear your leash when you are in the park and trails.

Also, if you poop on the trail, have your caretaker scoop it up! *Thanks! Riata Ranch*

Not Available Online

Personal Classified Ads

The RANCH REVIEW runs personal classified ads that are FREE to residents. If you would like to place and add, please email your submission to editor@riataranch.net. Your submission must be received by the 10th of the prior month.



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Volunteer Opportunities in Cypress-Fairbanks Schools

Summer vacations are now just a memory and students have returned to classrooms across the Cypress-Fairbanks School District. These students and their schools need help and involvement from the community.

Research shows that students whose parents are involved in their education and schools show a marked improvement in their academic and social skills. There are numerous benefits for all children if volunteers are working to provide extra attention and programs for the enhancement of their educational experience.

For those of you who work or have a restrictive schedule, there are many ways that you can help out that are not time consuming and much of the work can be done at home during the evenings or on

week-ends. And, remember that you do not need to be a parent or family member to be involved. There is a great need in the district for global volunteers. "Global volunteers" are individuals who are not the parent, grandparent or legal guardian of a student enrolled in a campus where they volunteer.

If you have a little extra time in your schedule, please consider becoming a school volunteer. To find out how to become a CFISD volunteer, go to the district website at www.cfisd.net. Press on the Quick Link drop down and go to Volunteer in CFISD. For more information about global volunteering, please contact the CFISD Partners in Education Department at pamela.scott@cfisd.net or 281-894-3950 or Kim Nash at krnash1@sbcglobal.net or 281-550-2685.

Casino Night & Silent Auction

*Cy-Woods High School
Wildcat Band & Color Guard*

On Saturday, September 19th from 7:00-10:30pm, the Cy-Woods Band will be hosting their fourth annual Casino Night at Cy-Woods High School. This annual event is not only to raise funds for the band and color guard, but also to have fun with friends and family. Ages 12 and up can participate. Play to win a great prize in our Texas Hold 'em tournament! You don't want to miss the fabulous Silent Auction and grand prize drawings! Come join the fun and help support the Wildcat Band and Color Guard. For more information visit the band website at www.cywoodsband.org.

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Healthier Homes

Improve Neighborhood Air Quality ... Fragrance Free Dryer Exhaust

By: Charlie & Michelle Bubnis

Have you ever been walking in the neighborhood enjoying the fresh air and then suddenly you are hit by the sweet fragranced smell of a heated artificial, petrochemical based scent from someone's clothes dryer exhaust? Often times a headache will occur, similar to people's reaction to perfumes worn in the office or at church. This is a normal protective reaction by the body as these fragrances are harmful neurotoxins and should be avoided whenever possible. National surveys found that at least 10% of the population reacts adversely to laundry products vented to the outdoors. Young children are particularly affected by fragranced chemicals because their body's detoxification mechanism is not fully developed.

Some of the most common chemicals used in fragranced laundry products are benzyl acetate, camphor, ethyl acetate, limonene and pentane. Many of these substances are capable of causing cancer, birth defects, central nervous system disorders, allergic reactions and chemical sensitivities. Some are on the EPA's hazardous waste list. According to a joint study by NIOSH and the U.S. House Subcommittee on Business Opportunities, 778 of the chemicals used in the chemical fragrance industry cause acute toxicity.

So the next time you are considering picking up a box of fragranced laundry detergent or fragranced dryer sheets... think about the impact on the neighborhood air quality and the proliferation of second hand scents. Healthier options could be: Add baking soda to the rinse cycle, or add 1/2 cup vinegar to the wash cycle to soften fabrics and reduce static cling. Vinegar is a natural fabric softener.

Do the neighborhood a favor and make sure your dryer exhaust doesn't pollute the environment. Be kind to yourself and to your neighbors, use unscented laundry products.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- <http://ehnc.org> – Fabric Softener = Health Risks from Dryer Exhaust and Treated Fabrics by Julia Kendall
- www.mcs-global.org – Could it be your Fabric Softener?
- www.physorg.com – Toxic Chemicals Found in Common Scented Laundry Products, Air Fresheners
- www.scorecard.org – enter your zip code and you can get information regarding air, water and chemical releases for your county



COLIN'S HOPE

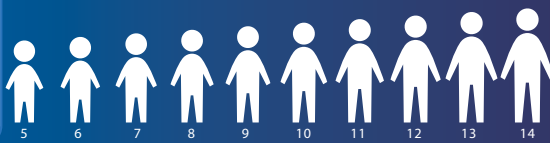
Increasing water safety awareness and standards

FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DROWNING

Drowning is the leading cause of unintentional injury-related death in children ages 1-4



DROWNING WILL AFFECT YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW



Drowning is the 2nd leading cause of unintentional injury-related death ages 1-14.

For more information, check out our website at

www.colinshope.org

DROWNING CAN STILL OCCUR EVEN IF YOU KNOW HOW TO SWIM

NO ONE is "drown proof" – no matter their level of swimming ability.

Falls, entrapments, and injuries lead to drowning regardless of swimming level.

A majority of people overestimate their own and their child's ability to swim, especially in a panic event.

DROWNING IS QUICK AND SILENT



Drowning occurs in as little as 2 minutes.



Irreversible brain damage occurs in as little as 4 minutes.



Most children are out of sight or missing for less than 5 minutes and usually in the presence of 1 or both parents.



Most children die who are submerged for as little as 6-10 minutes.

Children who drown do not **scream, splash, or struggle**. They silently slip beneath the water, even with adults & lifeguards present.



The Tri-County Quilt Guild

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

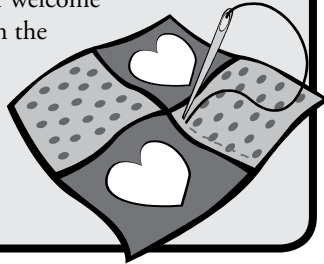
Meeting Place: Fairfield Baptist Church, 27240 Highway 290
(Between Muescke and Mason Rd) Cypress, TX 77433-4907
website: www.tricountyquiltguild.org

Established 2005

Some of our activities include Show & Tell, BOM's, Fabric Raffle, 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.



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10,001 TO 15,000	\$30	\$40
15,001 TO 20,000	\$35	\$45
20,001 TO 25,000	\$40	\$50

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Head Relocation (up to 4' from orig. location): **\$50/ea**
Replace 4" pop-up: **\$20/ea** Replace 4" rotor head: **\$40/ea**

RAIN SENSORS
Replace: **\$70/ea** Install New: **\$125/ea**

VALVES
Replace: **\$100/ea**

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Unknown Location: **\$150/ea**

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LIFE GROUPS

Fall 2009

Fall Life Groups and Bible Studies for all ages and stages.
Visit foundrychurch.org to learn more.

Join us this Sunday for worship.

Fry Road Campus
Movie Theatre on Hwy. 290 & Spring Cypress
Traditional Service: 9:00 a.m.
Contemporary Service: 10:20 a.m.

Jones Road Campus
8350 Jones Road, 1/4 mile off Hwy. 290 & Jones
Traditional Services: 8:15, 9:20 & 10:40 a.m.
Contemporary Services: 9:20 & 10:40 a.m.

THE FOUNDRY
A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

FoundryChurch.org | 713.937.9388

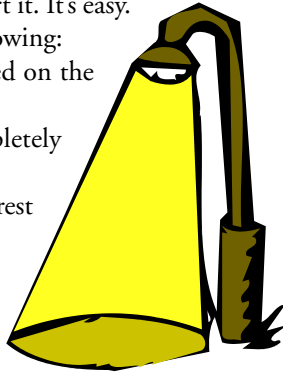
Riata Ranch

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".

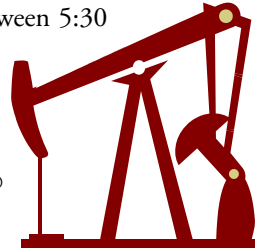


Oil & Gas Networking

If you work in any aspect of the Oil & Gas Industry and would like to network and meet your Cypress neighbors in your field, please come say Hi!

We will meet the 1st Monday of each month at IHOP on Hwy 290 (Next to CVS on Fry Road) between 5:30 am and 8:00 am.

Come by have a cup of coffee and get the latest events and happenings in the Industry. If you have any questions please feel free to email me at Kevin.Kays@sbcglobal.net



At no time will any source be allowed to use the Riata Ranch Community 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 the Riata Ranch Homeowners Association and Peel, Inc. The information in the Riata Ranch Community Newsletter is exclusively for the private use of Riata Ranch Community residents only.

Knights of Columbus

Knight of Columbus Council 8771 is sponsoring a Golf Tournament benefiting the Cypress Assistance Ministries and Youth Activities on Monday, October 5 2009 at Longwood Golf Club.

For more information and registration please see <http://www.kofc8771.org>.

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It's Not Too Late to Get Organized for the New School Year

Submitted by Kelly Butcher

School has just begun and you probably feel like you are drowning in the sea of papers, activities, and homework. As a professional organizer, I work with a lot of busy families who need help setting up routines for handling the abundance of paper from school, the mail, and for getting homework done. I hope to offer a few suggestions about routines to set-up and implement to help you have smooth sailing through this school year.



SOME GENERAL SYSTEMS TO HAVE IN PLACE INCLUDE:

- Calendar
- Incoming papers
- Homework

A large wall calendar with room enough to write each family member's activities is a must. Display the calendar in a location easily accessed by all family members. If you track your calendar electronically, have a centrally located computer with easy access for all family members. Assign a color to each family member and color-code activities.

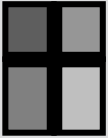



Papers consisting of incoming mail, school papers, both school work and items that require a response, and activity-related items (schedules, release forms, etc) are always an issue. Set up an action file system for handling the incoming paperwork such as a desktop hanging file organizer with files for each child or school. Teach your children to get into the habit of putting important papers or papers requiring a signature in a folder marked with "Mom" or "Dad". After you have signed the paper, either place the paper in a folder

to return to school or have your child put directly into their backpack. Also set up an archival system for the treasured school work that you want to save.

Fitting homework into our busy schedules is often difficult. Designate an area for your children to complete their work. For younger students, the kitchen table is probably where most of the homework is completed, so make sure all of the necessary supplies are available, so there is no excuse not to get started. I recommend using lidded plastic shoe-box size containers to hold markers, crayons, scissors, glue sticks, etc. Label the containers for ease in cleaning up. For older students who may complete their homework at a desk in their bedroom, ensure they have the necessary supplies available as well. A well-lit, clutter-free area away from distractions will help them stay focused on their work.

Establish a set time for homework to be completed. It may not be the same time every afternoon or evening based on after school activities. Look at the week ahead on Sunday evening and map out with your child the time they should complete their homework for each day based on that day's activities and mark it on the calendar. Most importantly, help your child get into the habit of packing their backpack before they go to bed. That way during the morning rush, important papers and items needed for school will not be forgotten at home.

Remember that developing new habits requires consistency and time. Begin setting up and implementing new systems as soon as possible and this school year will be off to a great start!

 <p>SAINT AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH <i>...where people come together...</i></p> <hr/> <p>Our Mission <i>St. Aidan's is an Episcopal church where people come together to be transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit as disciples of Christ, building a relationship with God and others, while reaching out to the community.</i></p> 	<p>SUNDAY'S AT ST. AIDAN'S</p> <p>8:00am Worship with Children's Sermon 9:15am Fellowship Breakfast 10:30am Worship with Children's Chapel</p> <p><i>Nursery care provided at all Worship and Programs.</i></p> <p><i>For more information, contact us by phone at 281.373.3203 or on the web at www.staidanshouston.org</i></p>  <p>You are invited to worship with us at our new church located at 13131 Fry Road, Cypress, TX 77433.</p>	<p>PARENTING SEMINAR</p> <p>Sunday, September 27th 4:00pm - 7:00pm</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY'S AT ST. AIDAN'S</p> <p>6:00pm - 6:30pm Dinner 6:30pm - 6:45pm Worship 6:45pm - 7:30pm Classes for All Ages</p> <p>Our Priest, Father Justin, looks forward to meeting you!</p> 
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Life In Riata Ranch

Ann Marie Gargano-Parks

Visit me at

www.RiataRanch-Neighbors.com

Comments are always welcome at:

thatgirl@AnnMarieGargano-Parks.com

Price trends for the previous month...



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DAY!**

SEPTEMBER 7TH!

Neighborhood Section	Active Listings	Pending Listings	Solds	Ave. Days on Market	Ave. Price per Sq. Ft
Section 1	3	-	-	-	-
Section 2	1	1	1	47	71.03
Section 3	2	1	3	92	69.47
Section 4	4	3	1	7	64.24
Section 5	-	2	-	-	-
Section 6	1	-	1	16	81.10
Section 7	1	-	-	-	-
Section 8	3	8	2	19	76.52
Section 9	-	-	-	-	-
Section 10	2	-	-	-	-
Section 11	-	1	1	11	52.78

According to information taken from the Houston Board of Realtors MLS computer.
This is not a solicitation of currently listed properties.

Labor Day



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