



LAKES

ON ELDRIDGE

Volume 9, Issue 3
March 2010

Official Newsletter
www.lakesoneldridge.net

Board Implements Fines for Traffic Violations

Please share this information with your household, guests, and service personnel!

As discussed in January's newsletter, a community patrol was implemented at the start of the year. The patrol's primary objectives are to act as a deterrent to speeding and other traffic violations and to enforce gate entry procedures. The Board has been working with ISSC to refine the patrol schedule and implement traffic enforcement procedures. The patrol will cover two shifts per week, with a schedule designed to provide coverage during our busiest traffic periods.

The patrol officer has been authorized to impose a fine for traffic violations. The fines are as follows:

Speeding: warning first offense, \$50 second offense, \$100 third offense, \$200 third offense (in any 2-year period)

Running a stop sign: warning first offense, \$50 thereafter

Passing an unloading or loading school bus: \$200

Reckless driving: \$200

Reckless driving will be considered any driving behavior that creates a significant hazard for pedestrians, other vehicles, and property. Running stops signs and speeding could be considered reckless driving under certain conditions, particularly

if pedestrians are present. When reckless driving is associated with another finable offense, only the reckless driving citation shall be issued. Reckless driving will also be counted as a speeding offense for the purposes of establishing the amount of future speeding fines.

The patrol has also been authorized to stop vehicles tailgating thorough the gates without a resident sticker. If the driver or a passenger cannot prove residency, he or she will be sent back (& possibly escorted) around to the Eldridge gate to be logged in. Visitors that choose to ignore the patrol officer may be followed and the address of the home visited will be recorded. The officer may also notify the homeowner that their guest violated the gate policy and kindly request that the homeowner relay the policy to their guests, that all guests should enter the main gate off of Eldridge and log in with the attendant.

Unpaid fines by residents will be recorded as a deed restriction on the account of the homeowner and will be subject to late fees and interest.

Guests and service personnel who violate traffic rules will be ticketed and will be subject to being banned from entering the neighborhood for repeat violations or unpaid fines.

If you need to contact the patrol,

please call the gate attendant, who will then contact the patrol if there is an active shift. Please note that you should always contact the proper authorities for emergencies. The patrol is not meant to replace law enforcement.

The following information was printed in the January newsletter and is printed again as a reminder. Please be aware that there are some duties that the patrol officer is not expected to perform:

The patrol officer cannot issue tickets for offenses not directly observed by him or her.

The patrol is not meant to replace law enforcement or emergency response. The patrol can be notified of an incident after the proper authorities have first been called.

The patrol officer is not trained as a pest / animal control officer.



Lakes on Eldridge

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)	
SouthWest Water Company	713 405 1750
Harris County Tax Office.....	713-224-1919
Reliant Energy.....	713-207-7777
CenterPoint (gas)	713-659-2111
Center Point (street light).....	713-207-2222
(give pole # of street which is out)	
Comcast.....	713 341 1000
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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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:

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Carlton Thorpe.....	Vice President
Heather Von Sternberg.....	Secretary
Cory Hammond	Treasurer
David King	At large

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www.lakesoneldridge.net

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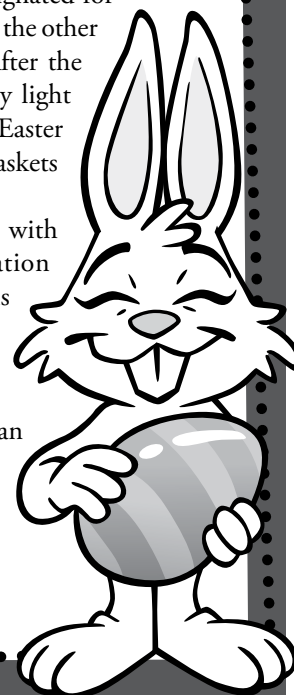
ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

The annual Easter Egg Hunt for the young children of Lakes on Eldridge will be held on Saturday, March 27th 2010 in front of the Beach Club. The hunt begins at 10:00 a.m. sharp.

To participate in the hunt, parents are asked to fill a dozen plastic eggs for each child that will be participating and drop them off at any neighborhood drop site no later than March 26, 2010. Egg hunt flyers, containing complete information, will be distributed door to door throughout the neighborhood. Please watch for gate signs.

The children hunt in two separate areas in front of the Beach Club. One area is designated for the younger children, ages 1-4 and the other is for children ages 5 and up. After the hunt, everyone is invited to enjoy light refreshments and a visit with the Easter Bunny. Please bring your Easter baskets and remember your camera!

Volunteers are needed to help with the distribution of the information flyers and egg collection. Help is also needed to hide the eggs and assist with set up the morning of the hunt beginning at 9:00 a.m. For more information or if you can help with the hunt please call Georgia Shotwell at (281)460-8505 or email her at gshotwell@sbcglobal.net.



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Spring is around the corner!
Now is a great time
to start preparing!

Here are some tips to get you started:

- Our last frost has passed, trim winter burn from plants and hedges.
- Check out your local nurseries for ideas, sales and coupons:
www.corneliusnurseries.com
www.houstongardencenters.com
www.teasnursery.com
- Check your sprinkler system, make sure the heads are not pointing at a window or broken. You will want to start watering 1 inch per week in April through June (recommended by Teas Nursery).

If you'd like information about neighborhood values, your home's value or are considering selling your home, call or email me for more information at no obligation.

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Lakes on Eldridge

Board Retains New Landscaping Contractor

You may have noticed the HLS landscaping crews in our community. The LOE Board terminated Brickman Landscaping in January and retained HLS Enterprises to provide landscape maintenance services. You may recall that Brickman was the contractor hired last year to replace Landscape Images of Texas. We had high hopes for Brickman and worked tirelessly with them in an effort to restore our landscape. Unfortunately, Brickman was not the right landscaper for this community.

You may be familiar with HLS's work as they provide landscape maintenance for Twin Lakes. HLS seems genuinely excited to be working with LOE and has already displayed initiative in improving our landscape.

In mid to late February, HLS will be preparing the community for spring by applying weed killer, fertilizing, trimming crepe myrtles, and limbing trees.



Yard of the Month Is Back and Better Than Ever!

Thanks to our new Yard of the Month volunteers and Calloway/Cornelius Nursery, our Yard of the Month program is back! Our new Yard of the Month Committee members are Maggie Wegner, Stephanie Leggett, and Richard Costello.

Thanks to the committee's efforts, our community has been selected by Calloway/Cornelius Nursery to take part in their "Good Neighbor Program". Cornelius will be providing a \$25 gift certificate for two selected households each month of the program. They will also be running a monthly gardening tips article in our newsletter.

Yard of the Month will run for 9 months, April through December. Each month, two winners and two honorable mentions will be selected by the committee. A selected household will not be eligible to win again in the current season. There

will be one winner and one honorable mention from each area east and west of Turkey Creek. Criteria for choosing the winner will be color, balance, maintenance, and aesthetics.

As mentioned, the two winners will receive a \$25 gift certificate that can be used at the Cornelius Nursery on Dairy Ashford just South of I-10. Sorry, honorable mentions are not eligible for a gift certificate, but will receive recognition!

Winners will be announced in the newsletter, and a sign will appear in the winners' yards. The committee will pick up signs near the end of the month unless the homeowner contacts AMI and expresses a desire to have them picked up early. Please do not pick up or discard the signs as they are reused each month.

SPRING TOUR OF HOMES



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Lakes on Eldridge

Lakes on Eldridge Swim Team Registration Coming Soon



The Lakes on Eldridge Swim Team (LOEST) is recruiting enthusiastic swimmers ages 4 to 18 looking to have great fun this summer. (Swimmers must be able to swim the length of the pool by the end of the 2nd week of practice.) LOEST is a voluntary and non-profit recreational swim team operated for the Lakes on Eldridge and surrounding neighborhoods. LOEST encourages a competitive swim team environment and

provides the opportunity for growth, training, enjoyment, good sportsmanship and participation to all active Team members. LOEST cannot function without parent involvement. Each family will be required to fulfill a volunteer commitment. It's a great way to meet other families and adults in our community. The Board and the coaches are excited for the 2010 season!

Online registration will open in March. Check our website for details.

Visit www.loedolphins.org and click on the link to the online registration. The team size is limited, so register early.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 18: Parents Meeting
April 19-23: Swim Clinic
April 26: First Day Of Swim Practice
May 1: Time Trials At Concord Bridge

MEET SCHEDULE FOR THE 2010 SEASON:

May 15: Home Meet - Deerfield
May 22: Away Meet - Norchester
May 29: Home Meet - Jersey Village
June 5: Home Meet - Winchester
June 12: Away Meet - Concord Bridge
June 19: Divisionals
June 25-27: Invitationals

Visit our website at www.loedolphins.org for up-to-date information. We have several open volunteer positions for hospitality and computers. If you are interested or would like to get more information on the positions please contact Carolyn Jenkins (hospitality) at carolyn1997@gmail.com or Laura Vassallo-Lee (computers) at VeeLee@sbcglobal.net. Should you have any questions or further inquiries regarding the upcoming 2010 LOEST Season, please contact any of the Board Members listed on our website.

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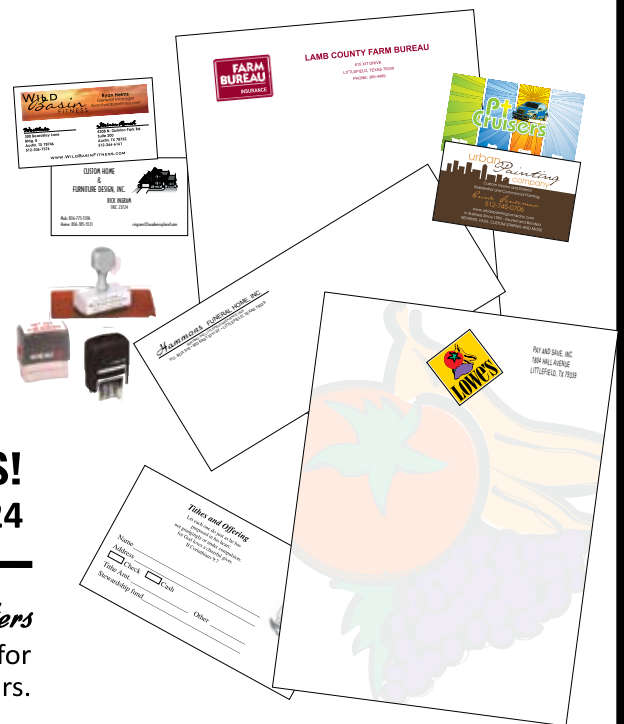
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Timely Tips for March Gardeners

From Cornelius Nursery

This is the year to grow your own fruits and vegetables! Our most popular clinic in 2009 was our "Spring Vegetables and Herbs" clinic and we will be hosting two clinics on that topic in March.

Many positive things come from growing a garden. Working in a garden can help to relieve stress and increase your overall activity level. Sunlight can improve sleep, deter depression and promote a stronger immune system. Growing your own garden allows you to control what fertilizers, pesticides and fungicides are used during the raising of your crops. But, most importantly, vegetables and fruits grown in a home garden tend to be more flavorful and nutritious!

When selecting a site for your gardens keep these requirements in mind. All vegetables need at least 6 hours of direct sunlight each day. Eight to 10 hours each day is ideal. The soil should be fertile and easy to work. Improve the texture by adding organic compost material. Container gardening is perfect if you have space or soil limitations. Gardens will need at least one inch of water per week including rainfall.

For more information about home gardening, please join us on the following dates. Go to <http://mytexasgarden.com/index.php/free-clinics/> for a complete list of our **FREE** in-store clinics. Clinics are held in every store.

SATURDAY, MARCH 6TH AT 10:15 AM THE EDIBLE FESTIVAL!

Learn how to grow and harvest the best vegetables and herbs for our area! We will have special events on home gardening this day.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27TH AT 10:15 AM SPRING VEGETABLES AND HERBS

Come see and hear how to start and nurture a home garden. Success in the garden begins with a good foundation. Become a member of our Garden Club and come grow with us! Visit www.mytexasgarden.com to join today.

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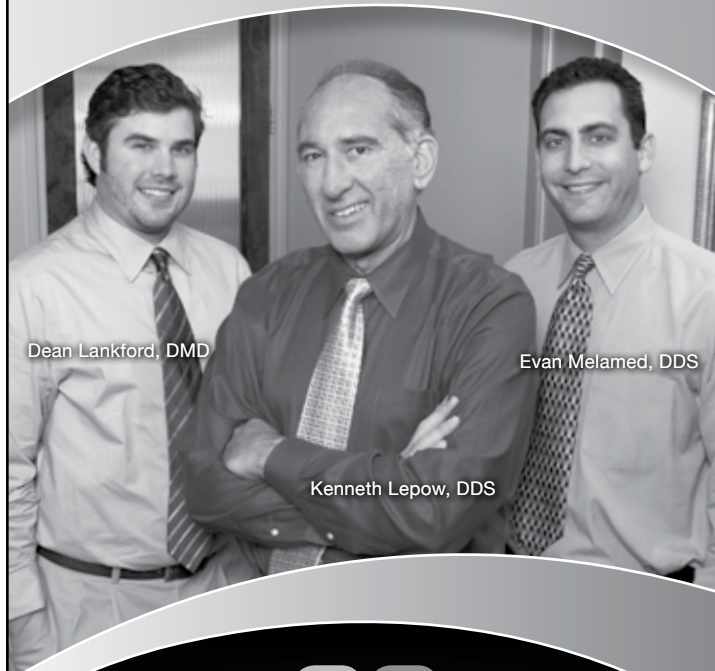
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Lakes on Eldridge

Farewell to a Beloved Member of the Community

We are saddened to report that Ann Shidell Mueller passed away on January 15, due to a sudden and unexpected heart failure. Ann and her husband, Lee Mueller, have contributed much to this community over the years, including caring for the swans. As tribute to all that they have done, a memorial bench will be erected in Ann's honor on the lake inside Pelican Pointe, near the Mueller's house. This will be a peaceful place for any neighbor to rest and enjoy our community. There is currently not a bench on this lake. The bench will be funded with both private and community funds.

Ann was an exemplar of hospitality; her energy for serving others was limitless. Her passion for music was known to all. Soon after arriving in Houston, she created and for 21 years directed The Noteworthy's, a women's singing chorale that performed for nursing homes, prisons, hospitals, churches, and community groups. She sang with the Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church

Choir continuously since 1970. She currently served on the Board of University of Houston's Moores School of Music Society. Ann was a former President and active member of Mu Phi Epsilon, Houston Tuesday Musical Club, and a Golden Arrow member of Pi Beta Phi. Ann volunteered at Texas Children's for 25+ years, where her husband, Lee, joined her in volunteering after his retirement from Texaco. Ann loved spoiling her family with gifts and attention, and her adventurous nature benefited all.

Thoughts and prayers should be directed toward her husband Lee, mother Margaret, son Larry, brother and sister-in-law Hal and Barbara Shidell, Lee's brother and sister-in-law Jim and Carol Mueller, Shidell nieces Vicki and Kim, and nephews Rusty, Bryan, and Scott Mueller. A Celebration of Life service was held on Wednesday, January 20 at Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church at 11612 Memorial Drive at Blalock.

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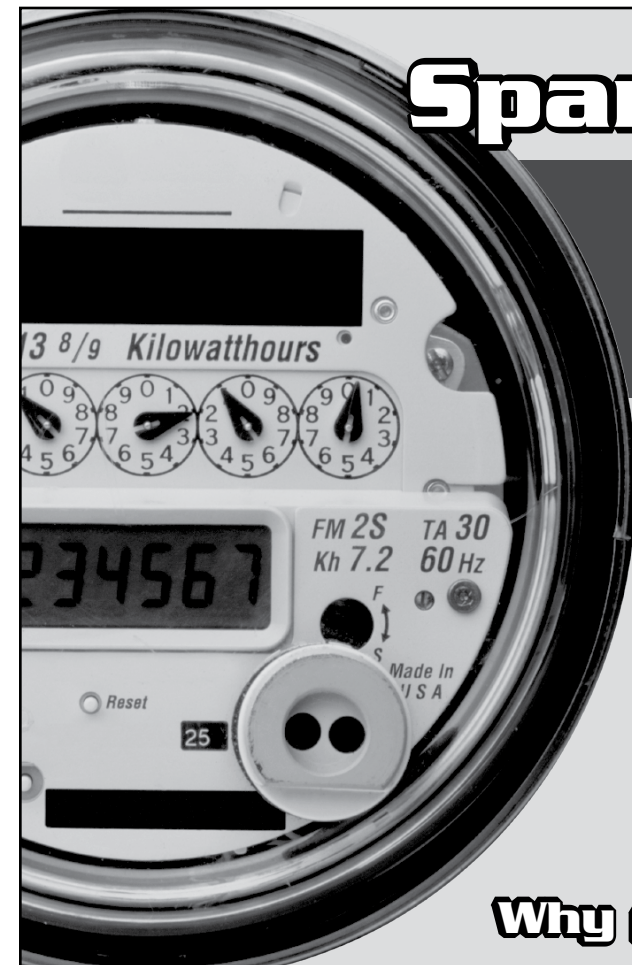
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Lakes on Eldridge

Daisy Girl Scouts Learns What it Means To Give a Gift of Dignity



Scouting organizations are known around the community and the world for things like camping, earning badges, and selling cookies. To those unfamiliar with Scouting, these certainly seem like worthwhile activities that develop our young citizens; however, when you peel back the layers of these endeavors, what you find is the core teachings of the Scout promise and law which strive to build traits of honor, patriotism, courage, respect, and service.

First grade Daisy Troop #16294 took another step on their journey to live out the teachings of the promise and law when they excitedly assembled birthday bags for donation to Mission Centers of Houston. Six and Seven year old girls can really relate to the idea of sharing a birthday celebration. For over 49 years, the Mission Centers of Houston have worked to transform the lives of people living in Houston's inner city. They serve impoverished communities by providing for the physical and spiritual needs of people. In working with the children, the girls discovered that many of the kids had never had a birthday party or even a cake. A tiny ministry was formed that would assemble a birthday party in a bag, containing a cake pan and cake mix, a tub of icing and decorations, candles, plates and cups. These bags packed much more than birthday essentials; they contained the elements needed to make a child feel special and important on their birthday and provide a sense of dignity to a mom as she is able to make her child's day memorable.

The Daisy Troop is based out of Kirk Elementary and is part of the San Jacinto Council. For more info on either of these organizations, go to gssjc.org or missioncenters.org.

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Please join in our Food Drive to benefit the Houston Guadalupe Center! Think of us during your next grocery store trip!

Your Keller Williams Realty area specialist will accept donations of non-perishable food items from January 30th till February 28th at 5802 Bolero Point Circle in LOEN.

Items needed are: Pasta, dry uncooked beans, peanut butter, mashed potatoes, dry cereal, dry milk, canned meat, canned tuna, canned vegetables and canned fruits.

Please drop bags under the porte cochere by side door anytime during the month of February!

For more information and directions please call 832-788-6002.

*Thank you for sharing our
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BUNCO JUNKIES

Members of Bunco Junkies meet & play at the LOE Beach Club House on the 1st Thursday of each month from 12 noon until 2 pm. We must have 12 players each month to be able to play. Please speak to your friends & neighbors and ask them to join us in this easy and fun game. Players do not have to be residents of Lakes on Eldridge to play.

*For more information contact:
Catherine Spellings at CTSpellings@aol.com, or call 713-628-7083 or 713-896-1652.*



Book Club

Our reading list for 2010 has a wide variety of topics, and each book is available through the Harris Cty. Library. Consider joining us to discuss them! We meet on the 4th Monday of each month at a member's home. Call Celeste at 713-896-6942 for location or additional information.

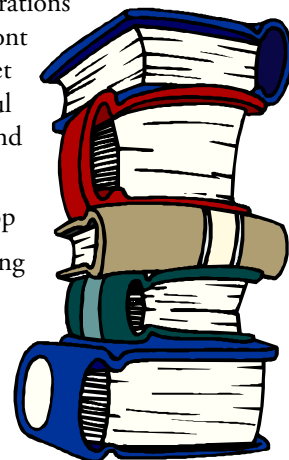
UPCOMING BOOKS:

March 22 – Crossing to Safety by Wallace Stegner. Called a “magnificently crafted story brimming with wisdom” by Howard Frank Moshier in The Washington Post Book World, Crossing to Safety has, since its publication in 1987, established itself as one of the greatest and most cherished American novels of the twentieth century. Tracing the lives, loves, and aspirations of two couples who move between Vermont and Wisconsin, it is a work of quiet majesty, deep compassion, and powerful insight into the alchemy of friendship and marriage.

April 26 – The Island by Victoria Hislop

May 24 – The Master Butcher's Singing Club by Louise Erdrich

June 28 – There Is No Me Without You by Melissa Fay Greene



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Lakes on Eldridge

Pair of LOE Breeder Swans Have New Home



Randy and Dominic, two of our most beautiful swans, have a new home. Although we will miss them terribly, it is good for them as they are going to a private lake where they can continue nesting and raising their young. Nesting on the lake by the tennis courts for the last two years, the pair provided us with some beautiful cygnets, but Randy had become more aggressive during mating and nesting season. For this reason it was agreed by the Wildlife Committee that the pair would fare better in a quieter environment. They will be well taken care of and the new owner will never separate them. Swans can live for 40 years in captivity so we wish them a happy future. Two of Juliet's cygnets from last spring will be placed on the lake where Randy and Dominic resided. These swans have a very gentle demeanor.

Our thanks go to the Cravens and Zetkas for making Dominic's and Randy's transition a calm one, and to Elizabeth Braun and Lee Mueller, who saved Dominic when she was 2 days old after she was picked up by a hawk and dropped into the water. Elizabeth kept Dominic for months and took her for numerous surgeries to save her. She was one of the sweetest swans we've ever had.

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Lakes on Eldridge

AUTUMN GROVE COTTAGE

Needs Volunteers

Do you enjoy spending time with seniors? Would you like to make a positive difference in their lives? Autumn Grove Cottage is an assisted living facility for individuals with Alzheimer's or dementia related illnesses. We are interested in volunteers socializing with our residents. Autumn Grove Cottage has just 16 residents and it is close to your neighborhood. If you would like to volunteer in a cozy, home-like atmosphere then call Laura at (281) 398-6845 or visit our website www.autumngrovecottage.com. Come be a part of our philosophy – "To honor our residents and those who love and care for them." Volunteers will need to complete a volunteer application and attend a brief training session.

"No act of kindness, no matter, how small, is ever wasted" – Aesop

Texas Flag Flown over Afghanistan Donated to Cypress Christian School

In honor of our many veterans and prayer warriors, Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Miller, Cypress Christian School parents, donated a special and unique "Texas" flag to the school located at 11123 Cypress N. Houston at Jones Rd. The flag was flown on June 19, 2009, in Afghanistan, by a United States Army Special forces team during a mission. The Miller's son, Jonathan gave the flag to his parents to present to Cypress Christian in honor of all the prayer warriors who have prayed for him during tours to Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Miller family asks everyone to pray Psalm 91, The Soldier's Psalm, for all soldiers who are in harm's way. It is said that, during WWI, the soldiers of the 91st Brigade recited the 91st Psalm daily. This brigade engaged in three of that war's bloodiest battles. Other units suffered up to 90% casualties, but the 91st Brigade did not sustain a single combat-related death. Cypress Christian School is honored to support our troops through prayer and donations. For more information on this story, please contact Sharon Miller at the school at 281.469.8829. Articles on how students support our troops are published in the school newsletter, CONNECTION, which is available via the school website at www.CypressChristian.org. (both C's should be capitalized for clarity).



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290 Cypress Business Networking Group

The 290 Cypress Business Networking Group meets every Thursday morning at 7:30 am at Cypress Station Grill located at 26010 Hempstead Road. Behind the Target shopping center at 290 and Spring Cypress. The group is open to all business owners and professionals who want to increase their exposure to the residents of Cypress and the surrounding areas. Job seekers are welcome. There is no cost to attend the meeting. If you would like more information, please call Ken Parker at 281-384-1562 or visit our website at 290Cypress.com

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

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

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Price Range:	\$255,000 \$1,097,430	\$325,000 \$759,900	\$230,000 \$920,000
Average Price	\$459,622	\$542,450	\$367,914
Avg Price/sq.ft.	\$119.97	\$116.41	\$106.83
Avg DOM	107	233	68
High Price/sq.ft.			\$171.93
Low Price/sq.ft.			\$80.63



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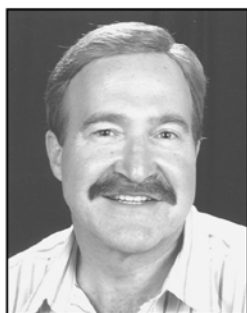
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