

The Ranch Review

www.riataranch.net

June 2010

Volume 5, Issue 6

Official Publication of Riata Ranch Homeowners Association

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

June starts summer and the heat is here! Lots of good times are in the future for our children who are now out of school. Some kids staying home, or summer camp and some older children off to college in the fall. Wow for the parents who have children going off to college....I'm sure they are saying where did the time go?!

Want to remind everyone to be careful this summer. Remember water safety and always watch your little ones around pool areas. With that said....enjoy your upcoming summer!

Cindy

Ideas for the Newsletter?

Do you have ideas for an article or story that you would like your Riata Ranch community to hear? If so, please go to <http://www.peelinc.com/> and go to the link to submit an article under the Residents tab.

Dates to Remember:

Riata Ranch Homeowners Annual Meeting

Quorum was not met on May 11, 2010
so we will reschedule another Annual Meeting.
Date and Time TBD.

Last Day of School

June 2, 2010

Safety Seminar

June 17th, 2010

Annual Garage Sale

September 25, 2010 (rain or shine)

BBQ FAMILY DAY IN THE PARK

Was a Success!

Current Riata Ranch families joined in the park for some good BBQ and family fun in the sun! Hope everyone noticed the date change to June 5th. Communication was sent through website and signs throughout the neighborhood. If you missed it....see you next year!

SLOW DOWN!

Slow Down on Cypress North Houston and Riata Ranch Blvd. Some cars are going way to fast. The speed limit is 35 MPH. Kids will be all over the streets during the summer time. Better to slow down and be safe rather than getting a ticket from an officer or worse yet having a tragic accident.

HOME FOR THE SUMMER

Or Just Want Some Extra Money?

If you would like to add your name and phone number to the RR paper to babysit or dog sit for a fellow neighbor please send your information through the RR website which is: www.riataranch.net. We can then advertise your services in the RR paper for fellow neighbors who might need your services.

CAR DECAL

Have you received your complimentary RR car decals? We sent 3 to every household. If you would like additional car decals at \$1.00 each, please contact Michele Luttrell at SCS - 281-500-7107.

The decals are a tool to enable our Sheriff's officers to conduct their patrol of our neighborhood more effectively. This program is only successful if we have widespread participation from all residents so we urge you to participate by affixing a "RR" car decal to the lower left corner (driver's side) of your vehicle's back windshield.

I have seen more and more cars (including mine) that now have the decals attached. We can't make you do it but appreciate your participation.

Riata Ranch

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY

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

SCHOOLS

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

UTILITIES

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

LIBRARY

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

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KEEP AN EYE OUT

For People That Do Damage To Our Neighborhood

It is very costly to repair damaged items in our neighborhood. One big expense is our gates in sections 6 and 7. If you see a car, truck or trailer hit one of those gates, take a license plate number down and report it to SCS management. Graffiti is another costly expense. Keep an eye out for people that do damage to our neighborhood because the burden of the cost falls on the residents of Riata Ranch.

Notice of Safety Seminar

Riata Ranch Neighborhood along with Barker Lake Neighborhood will be hosting a Safety Seminar Night free to our residents. Officer Rick will talk about general safety and protection for you and your home. The seminar will consist of safety in parking lots especially during busy seasons, identity and car theft, and other various ways to protect yourself. Safety is always a concern. Please come and start protecting yourself and loved ones!

DATE: Thursday, June 17, 2010
TIME: 6:45pm – 8:00 pm
PLACE: Lone Star College (Room 152)

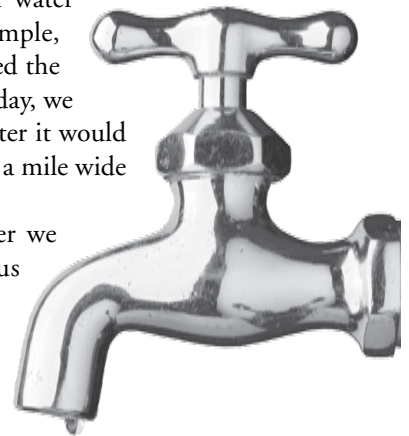
USE WATER WISELY....

It Is The Right Thing To Do

There are more than 1 billion people in the world who do not have access to safe drinking water, and that number will more than double by 2020. The United States uses some 450 billion gallons of water every day. Unfortunately, we have taken our water supplies for granted and have developed some wasteful habits. Strangely enough, we drink very little of our drinking water...only one percent of what is produced by water utilities to be exact. The rest goes on our lawns, in washing machines, and down toilets and drains. We need to think more about how we use our water supplies. Consider, for example, if everyone in the U.S. flushed the toilet just one less time each day, we could save the amount of water it would take to fill a lake a mile long, a mile wide and four feet deep.

Think about it...the water we conserve today can serve us tomorrow!

*(Taken from Mud196
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COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (C.E.R.T.)

CERT promotes a partnering between emergency management and response agencies and the people in the community that they serve. The goal is to train members of neighborhoods and workplaces in basic response skills. Then CERT teams are formed and maintained as part of the emergency response capability for their area.

If there is a natural or man-made event that overwhelms or delays the community's professional responders, CERT members can assist others by applying the basic response and organizational skills that they learned during their CERT training. These skills can help save and sustain lives until help arrives. CERT members also can volunteer for special projects that improve a community's preparedness.

CERT teams are now forming throughout the Atascocita area, including Eagle Springs. The Eagle Springs' Team currently has five resident members who have been through the CERT training program. More are needed!

CERT training is designed to prepare you to help yourself, your family, and your neighbors in the event of a catastrophic disaster. Because emergency services personnel will not be able to help everyone immediately, you can make a difference by using this training to save lives and protect property. CERT members are typically the first responders to the scene of a disaster and as such, take command of

the situation until professional emergency personnel arrive.

The 8-week course (24 hours of training) covers basic skills that are important to know in a disaster when emergency services are not readily available. Members are trained in:

- Emergency Preparedness
- Fire Suppression
- Utility Control
- Disaster Medical Operations
- Light Search & Rescue
- Team Organization
- Terrorism Awareness

With training, practice and working as a team, you will be able to do the greatest good for the greatest number of people should a disaster strike, while protecting yourself and your family from becoming victims.

There is no cost for this course. A backpack of emergency and medical supplies is provided to all CERT team members during training. This program is provided to you by Harris County Citizens' Corps and Judge Ed Emmett. (www.harriscountycitizencorps.com) For more information on how you can become involved in CERT, or how to join the Eagle Springs CERT team, please contact the Safety Advisory Committee at: SafetyAdvisoryCommittee@comcast.net



chalk art
from the heart

Participate this June 12th - 20th in *Chalk Art from the Heart* and help us promote water safety. Drowning is Preventable!

Check out our website for details, contest rules and PRIZES!

WWW.COLINSHOPE.ORG

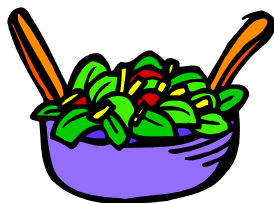


COLIN'S HOPE

Recipe of the Month

Black Bean Shrimp Salad

- 1 pound cooked medium shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 1 can (15 ounces) black beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 small green pepper, julienned
- 1 small onion, thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 2/3 cup picante sauce
- 2 tablespoons minced fresh cilantro
- 2 tablespoons lime juice
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon grated lime peel, optional
- 6 lettuce leaves
- 1 cup halved cherry tomatoes



In a large bowl, combine the first five ingredients. In a small bowl, whisk the picante sauce, cilantro, lime juice, oil, honey, salt and lime peel if desired. Pour over shrimp mixture and toss to coat. Cover and refrigerate for at least 2 hours. Using a slotted spoon, spoon onto a lettuce-lined serving platter or salad plates. Garnish with tomatoes. Yield: 6 servings.

Nutrition Facts: 3/4 cup equals 224 calories, 6 g fat (1 g saturated fat), 115 mg cholesterol, 571 mg sodium, 22 g carbohydrate, 4 g fiber, 19 g protein. Diabetic Exchanges: 2 very lean meat, 1 starch, 1 vegetable, 1 fat.

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Lone Star College-CyFair Perspective

New Student Orientations Available

Take a tour, learn about campus programs, meet with an advisor, choose a schedule and register for summer and fall classes. Free sessions set June through August for new, transfer and non-traditional students as well as family and veterans orientations. Space is limited so pre-register online LoneStar.edu/cyfair-orientation. Call 281.290.3430 or e-mail cfoutreach@lonestar.edu

Just for Teens: Dual Credit, Driver's Education, Discovery College, Library Programs

Lone Star College offers several summer programs for teens. Earn high school and college credit simultaneously while experience college life with Dual Credit classes starting June 7 and July 15 held at LSC-CyFair. Go to LoneStar.edu/jumpstart-cyfair. Summer driver's education courses for teens ages 15 to 17 are available starting June 7, July 6 and again Aug. 2. Go to LoneStar.edu/drivers-ed-ce. Discovery College summer camp for ages 6 to 14 is available June 7 through Aug. 6. Go to LoneStar.edu/youth-classes-cyfair. To find out about book clubs, SAT practice exams, Wii, baseball carnival and more library programs, call the teen librarian at 281.290.5248.

Cool off at the gallery, library and summer camp

Check out "Wabi-sabi" Objects by Chuck Schwarz, a visiting artist exhibition on display June 15 through July 8. An artist reception is set 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. June 16. Go to LoneStar.edu/bosquegallery. The Harris County Public Library Lone Star College-CyFair Branch offers a Summer Reading Program for children and adults. Call 281.290.3211. Discovery College summer camp (week-long sessions June 7 through Aug. 6) for ages 6 to 14 is under way. Go to LoneStar.edu/youth-classes-cyfair.

Wanted: People Who Need a Massage!

Come get a massage from the LSC-CyFair Massage Therapy Program students. Get an hour massage for just \$25. It's a win-win situation – you get a massage and with your help, these students will earn credit hours to be eligible to take the state or national board exam to become a Massage Therapist at the end of the summer. Massages will be offered Monday through Thursday only, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. through Aug. 19. Call 832.482.1022 or e-mail cfmtherapy@lonestar.edu to schedule an appointment.

(Continued on Page 7)



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Lone Star College - (Continued from Page 6)

L.I.F.E. Lessons in June

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 June include "How Roads are Changing the World" with Harris County Judge Ed Emmett June 2; "Organic Sustainable Gardening" June 9; "Savvy Signing with Professor Lyle Hudson" June 16; "Watercolor in Spite of Yourself" with artist Tony Kram June 23 and "Fast for the Cure" with Chinese medical doctor, Dr. Mary Chen June 30. Call the library at 281.290.3214 for L.I.F.E. program information or go online to LoneStar.edu.



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In life, you can't avoid all risks — and you shouldn't try, because endeavors that carry risk also bring the prospect of reward. And it's certainly the same in the investment world. So instead of trying to invest risk-free, which is impossible, learn to recognize the different types of investment risk while becoming familiar with your own risk tolerance.

To start with, let's quickly look at some of the most common forms of investment risk:

- **Risk of losing principal** — This is the type of risk most commonly associated with investing. You could lose some, or even all, of your principal if you sell an investment, such as a stock, whose value has dropped lower than the purchase price. You can't eliminate the risk of losing principal, but you may be able to reduce it by buying quality stocks and holding them long enough to overcome short-term market drops.
- **Inflation risk** — With an investment that pays a fixed rate of return, such as a certificate of deposit (CD), you run the risk of not keeping up with inflation, which means you could lose purchasing power over time. Consequently, it's a good idea not to "overload" on these types of investments.
- **Interest-rate risk** — When you own a bond, your investment is somewhat at the mercy of changing market interest rates. For example, if you buy a bond that pays four percent interest, and market rates rise so that newly issued bonds pay five percent, the relative value of your bond will go down; no one will pay you face value of your bond when they can get new ones that pay higher rates. Of course, if you hold your bonds until maturity, which is often a good idea, you can avoid being victimized by interest-rate risk.
- **Concentration risk** — This type of risk occurs when you have too much of your money concentrated in one area, such as in a particular stock or in one industry. If a downturn strikes that stock or industry, your portfolio could take a big hit. To combat this type of risk, you need to diversify your holdings among stocks, bonds, government securities and other investments. While diversification, by itself, cannot guarantee a profit or protect against a loss, it can help reduce the effect of volatility.

In addition to understanding the above types of risk, you also need to be familiar with your own risk tolerance and how it affects

(Continued on Page 9)

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Alan "Petrodamus" Lammey, host of 'Energy Week', can be heard every Sunday on 1070 KNTH in Houston.

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Financial Focus - (Continued from Page 8)

your investment strategy. If you are constantly worried about "the market," you've probably got too many investments that are at risk of losing principal. At the other end of the spectrum, if you're always concerned that your portfolio won't grow enough to generate the income you'll eventually need for retirement, you may be investing too conservatively — and, as a result, you're inviting inflation risk.

Ultimately, you need to match your own risk tolerance with a strategy that allows you to achieve your goals. This will require self-awareness, patience, discipline — and, at times, a willingness to move outside your own "comfort zone." By learning to balance and manage risk, you can ultimately put yourself in a position to pursue your investment strategy.



American Business Women's Association Cy-Fair Express Network (CYFEN)

Event: Cy-Fair Express Network Monthly Networking Luncheon

When: June 24, 2010

Time: 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Where: Houston National Golf Club

16500 Houston National Blvd

Houston, TX. 77095

Networking and Business Luncheon

Cy-Fair Express Network invites you to their monthly meeting and luncheon. Lots of fun, networking, and giveaways. Bring plenty of business cards. Please make reservations by June 18 to Anya Lucas @ (713)459-2331 or anya@lucascare.com. More information @ www.cyfen.org.

Our mission is to bring together businesswomen of diverse occupations and to provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking support, and national recognition.

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SUMMER HEAT CAUTIONS

Stay Safe This Summer

How dangerous is overheating in the summer months? According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, from 1973 – 2003, excessive heat exposure caused 8,015 deaths in the United States. "Heat-related deaths and illness are preventable, yet annually many people succumb to extreme heat," says Dr. George Luber, extreme heat expert for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

Summertime activity, whether on the playing field, running, boating, or just enjoying the great outdoors, must be balanced with measures that aid the body's cooling mechanisms and prevent heat-related illness. Know the symptoms of heat disorders and overexposure to the sun, and be ready to give first aid treatment.

Heat Cramps- are strong muscle contractions and usually affect the abdomen and legs. The condition usually improves with rest, water and cooler conditions.

Heat Exhaustion- caused by heat and dehydration but the effects are more serious than cramps. Symptoms may include

pale skin, dizziness or fainting, nausea or vomiting, and an increase in body temperature. Rest, water and cool compresses (ice water on the back of the neck, etc) can help. For more severe heat exhaustion, IV fluids may be required.

Heat Stroke- The most serious of the heat related conditions. Heat stroke is most commonly brought on by strenuous exercise in hot conditions. However, it can also affect non-active individuals if the temperature is high enough. Visual signs include flushed, red skin, the person often stops sweating**. This is one key sign that an individual is in an overheated condition. Also, a person with heat stroke might become delirious, unconscious, or have seizures. Lowering the body temperature and getting fluids into the person as quickly as possible is imperative.

Don't get caught off guard this summer drink plenty of water, wear plenty of sun-screen, and exercise early in the morning. Enjoy the summer season and stay safe.

- Submitted by Valerie Salinas



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Riata Ranch Stork Report

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Price trends for the previous month...

Neighborhood Section	Active Listings	Pending Listings	Solds	Ave. Days on Market	Ave. Price per Sq. Ft.
Section 1	3	-	-		
Section 2	3	-	-		
Section 3	5	2	-	-	-
Section 4	1	1		-	-
Section 5	4	1	1	62	66.12
Section 6	1	1	-	-	-
Section 7	-	1	-	-	-
Section 8	2	-	-	-	-
Section 9	1	-	-		-
Section 10	1	-	1	165	66.15
Section 11	1	3	-	-	-

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

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RE/MAX REALTORS have not sold their houses. (Free competition continued for the past 18 months,
according to the Houston MLS)