

Volume 9, Issue 7 **July 2010** 

Official Newsletter www.lakesoneldridge.net

### Timely Tip for July **Gardeners**

From Calloway's Nursery

Welcome to the lazy dog days of summer... But wait, it's time to prepare and plant your fall vegetable garden! Did you know that many fall vegetables have better flavor? Since the days are getting shorter many vegetable crops store more sugar and have better flavor than spring crops. Once established, weeding, watering and tending will all take place in a little cooler, less humid conditions.

Prepare your soil much like in the spring. Add at least three inches of organic compost and three inches of Expanded Shale to the garden. Select vegetables your family likes and choose from transplants or seeds. Apply organic fertilizer or timed-release plant food. Remember to continue feeding your garden on a regular schedule. Complete the planting by adding two-to three inches of mulch to maintain moisture, help prevent weeds and to maintain moderate soil temperatures.

Vegetables for a fall garden include tomatoes, peppers, snap beans, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots and lettuce. Keep your garden well watered until fall rains begin. Once everything is planted, sit back and enjoy a second growing season!

We will be hosting a free clinic in every store on Fall Vegetable Gardens on Saturday, July 3rd at 10:15 am. Get the scoop on Fall Gardening-Texas style! Go to mytexasgarden.com/index. php/free-clinics/ for a complete list of our free in-store clinics. Visit www.mytexasgarden.com for more gardening tips, information and to become a member of our Garden Club!

Sard Of The Month

CALLOWAY / CORNELIUŠ NURSERY GOOD NEIGHBOR PROGRAM





Carolyn & Shelton, Elizabeth & Matthew, 5539 Evening Shore Dr 12206 Summerland Ridge

Wow!! There were so many yards to choose from this month! All the flowers and colors look beautiful and well thought out. Keep up the great work! The following are names and photos of our TWO WINNERS and names of our TWO HONORABLE MENTIONS for JULY:

### **WINNERS:**

CAROLYN & SHELTON GLENN, 5539 EVENING SHORE DR ELIZABETH & MATTHEW TOBINS, 12206 SUMMERLAND RIDGE

#### **HONORABLE MENTIONS:**

NIKKI FAVERO, 12311 LAKE SHORE RIDGE BRENT SARGENT, 5523 STERLING BROOK

Congratulations to you all for a job well done! Winners, please allow 8 weeks for receiving your gift certificate from Cornelius.

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### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

AMI713-932-1122							
Gate Attendant713-937-8825							
Waterfowl, Betty Burkett713-302-9929							
Sheriff - (non-emergency)713-221-6000							
Cy-Fair Fire Department - (emergency)281-466-6161							
(non-emergency)281-550-6663							
Poison Control1-800-764-7661							
Texas DPS713-681-1761							
Waste Management713-695-4055							
(trash collection Mondays & Thursdays)							
SouthWest Water Company							
Harris County Tax Office713-224-1919							
Reliant Energy713-207-7777							
CenterPoint (gas)713-659-2111							
Center Point (street light)713-207-2222							
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Comcast							
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### **Homeowners Can Pay**

Assessment with Credit Card

AMI is now accepting payments by Visa, Master Card, Discover, and American Express or by E-Check, through the AMI website or over the phone. Homeowners and residents can make a one time payment or schedule recurring payments. Processing and Convenience Fees apply to each transaction: 3% - Master Card, Visa and Discover, 4% - American Express, and \$2.40 for each E-Check. All and convenience fees go directly to PayLease Inc, which administers the system. AMI does not collect any of these fees.

### TO MAKE AN ONLINE PAYMENT:

- 1. Go to www.amitx.com and click on the "Payment Options" button to the right of the screen. Click on the "Pay Online Now" button at the top of the page and another window will open.
- 2. Log in, or if you are a new user and you have never used this payment option before, register first by clicking on the "Not Registered Yet?" button to the left.
- 3. In order to register you will need to know your "Access Number", which is your account number as found on your statement (or you can call AMI to get it). Note that the Access Number must be eight digits long; if the account number is not eight digits, add extra zeros in front of it. You then enter the last name on the account, an email address and a password of your choice, check off "Agree with terms and conditions of use", and press "Register".
- 4. Once logged in, choose the payment option and follow the links. The amount owed comes up on the screen after choosing the payment option. Fill out the required information and press the "Continue" button at the bottom of the screen.

To make a payment by phone, call 1-866-729-5327.

The standard processing time is 2-3 business days. You may also choose the express pay option for a more rapid payment date.

# 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 homet; just grab one before you leave the house for your walk. PLEASE SCOOP YOUR DOG'S POOP!



### LocalKidzstuff.com

Local resource for family-friendly events, places and businesses

Gocitykids.parentsconnect.com

A guide to parenting resources, kids' events, and family-friendly places to go

FamilyFunHouston.com
Family Fun Houston is for the families that call Houston Home

Cmhouston.org
The Childrens Museum of Houston - A Playground for Your Mind

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### KIRK ELEMENTARY DI JOES

Place at Global Finals



The DI Joes from Kirk Elementary traveled to Knoxville, Tennessee for the Destination Imagination Global Finals last month. The DI Joes placed at the Globals and were recognized at the Awards/Closing Ceremony. The team competed in the Improvisational Challenge against teams from all over the world. They met kids from many other cultures and traded pins with them as part of their experience. The DI Joes made Kirk Elementary, Cy- Fair ISD, The Gulf Coast Region, and the state of Texas very proud with their commitment to their challenge, along with their excellent behavior and true spirit of Destination Imagination. We congratulate them on a successful year and wish them much luck in their future challenges and endeavors! The Team was presented with a special acknowledgment at the June 14, 2010 CFISD School board meeting by Dr. Anthony and the CFISD School Board.

In the team photo, left to right: Collin Viator, Hunter Jordan, Jenna Krenek, Hannah Pham, Juliet Leger.



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.

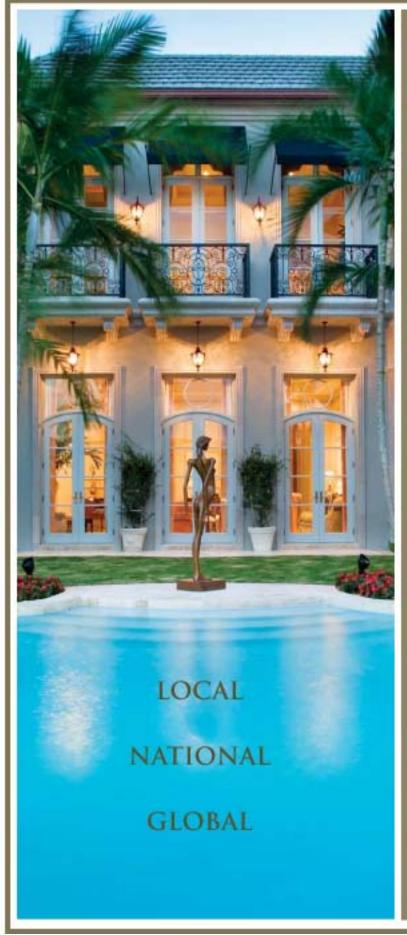


Most children are out of sight or missing for less than 5 minutes and usually in the presence of 1 or both parents.



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.



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### **CFISD PROJECTED TO RECEIVE**

Recognized Academic Rating

Preliminary 2010 TAKS results indicate that Cypress-Fairbanks ISD will retain its status as the largest Recognized district in Texas for the third consecutive year. Based on TAKS performance, 74 of CFISD's 76 campuses (97 percent) are Recognized or Exemplary using the standard accountability system—an increase from 85 percent in 2009.

The district achieved Exemplary status in 24 of the TEA's 25 TAKS indicators, while the other indicator is at the Recognized level. This is an increase from 18 of 25 indicators in 2009. The district's TAKS results are even more impressive considering that CFISD's 2010 testing population includes 2,850 more students taking TAKS or TAKS-A over 2009.

"We are tremendously pleased with our students' TAKS gains across the board—namely increasing the number of indicators reaching the Exemplary level. Ninety-six percent of the 25 areas measured were at or above the Exemplary threshold," said Roy Garcia, associate superintendent for curriculum and instruction and school administration. "We credit our students for their dedication to personal academic achievement, as well as our teachers and administrators who were committed to making these advancements."

The official 2010 Accountability Ratings will be released on July 30, 2010.

# Lakes On Eldridge Bible Study to Resume in August

The Lakes on Eldridge Bible Study will resume on August 31 with Sharon Jaynes' study What God Really Thinks About Women. This study is based on her book by the same name, which be would a good read for the summer in preparation for the upcoming study. The book is available in bookstores or on Amazon.com. The study guide will be available for purchase on the first day of Bible study. If you plan to attend, it would be very helpful if you would contact Stephanie at sableggett@sbcglobal.net before July 15 so we can order a study guide for you. The study guide will cost \$10.00. The LOE Bible Study meets every Tuesday mornings 9:15-11:30 at the LOE Beach Club. If you need additional information or would like to pre-register, please contact Stephanie at the above email address. We are looking forward to seeing you on August 31!

# Electricity is ON SALE at StarTex Power!



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

I'm Texas Energy Analyst, Alan Lammey. In case you didn't know, electricity rates are currently at lows not seen in years, which means that NOW is the time to lock in a very low electricity rate with the provider that I highly recommend to all my radio show listeners: StarTex Power. StarTex Power is local and reputable, with some of the most competitive rates available in all of Texas. You can switch right online at www.StarTexPower.com

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### LAKES ON ELDRIDGE

Swim Team News

Our 11th great season finished just recently, believe it or not, and already we are making plans for the 12th! Time passed quickly as always, but of course that is because all involved had such great fun. Congratulations are in order, especially to all the wonderful children that put such great effort into excelling but also to their parents and coaches, and many thanks to the volunteers who made it all possible. You are all winners!

The LOE Swim Team once again co-sponsored the 4th of July Celebration in Lakes on Eldridge. We hope you were able to join us at the event, or even better, volunteered to help!

Next month we will have more details on how the team performed in the Divisional competition and how the Invitationals went. But if you cannot wait to find out, the latest information is on our website www.loedolphins.org. And don't forget that LOEST offers a fall swim program from the last week in August through the end of October; details and registration information are also on the website.

### **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.



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Lakes on Eldridge Specialist

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Price Range:	\$251,000 \$1,050,000	\$249,000 \$875,000	\$230,000 \$772,000	
Average Price	\$565,552	\$412,965	\$375,435	
Avg Price/sq.ft.	\$133.29	\$113.49	\$103.37	
Avg DOM	54	41	86	
High Price/sq.ft.			\$156.83	
Low Price/sq.ft.			\$69.44	



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\*Realtor Teams per RE/MAX 12/2009

# Congratulations Xyrie Cassin!



Kyrie Cassin, valedictorian of Pope John XXIII High School, is the daughter of Siobhan Cassin and Emils Skulte. Kyrie was enrolled in Advanced Placement (AP) and honors classes, was president of her school's National Art Honor Society, and held leadership positions in her school's National Honor Society, Student Council, and Link Crew. Kyrie will be attending Southwestern University in the fall, where she plans to major in Biology and minor in History. She received the National Art Honor Society

Senior Scholarship at Pope John XXIII and the AP/IB Recognition Scholarship and Cody Scholarship from Southwestern.



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# Book Club

Our reading list for 2010 has a wide variety of topics, and each book is available through the Harris County 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.

(Celeste says: "I really enjoyed reading The Island, a novel set on Crete, as I was cruising through the Greek isles. Also, I met an author who was on the ship researching her latest novel—must be nice to claim that trip as a business expense! I looked up her work and she has received lots of favorable ratings and a few awards, so I may recommend one of her books for our group. If anyone else has any book recommendations, please drop me a note by email at celeste.fritz@gmail.com.")

### **UPCOMING BOOKS:**

• July 26 - The Help by Kathryn Stockett. Be prepared to meet three unforgettable women:

Twenty-two-year-old Skeeter has just returned home after graduating from Ole Miss. She may have a degree, but it is 1962, Mississippi, and her mother will not be happy till Skeeter has a ring on her finger. Skeeter would normally find solace with her beloved maid Constantine, the woman who raised her, but Constantine has disappeared and no one will tell Skeeter where she has gone.

Aibileen is a black maid, a wise, regal woman raising her seventeenth white child. Something has shifted inside her after the loss of her own son, who died while his bosses looked the other way. She is devoted to the little girl she looks after, though she knows both their hearts may be broken.

Minny, Aibileen's best friend, is short, fat, and perhaps the sassiest woman in Mississippi. She can cook like nobody's business, but she can't mind her tongue, so she's lost yet another job. Minny finally finds a position working for someone too new to town...

• August 23 - The Master Butcher's Singing Club by Louise Erdrich

Don't want to wait for the mail?

View the current issue of the
Lakes on Eldridge Community

Newsletter on the 1st day
of each month at www.PEELinc.com

### Stitch & Chat

Members of Stitch and Chat meet every Thursday from 10 a.m. until 12 noon at the LOE Beach Club House. We knit, crochet, needle pint, embroidery, counted cross stitch, mend items, and sew on buttons that we have put off much too long. We make Quilts for family members, shawls for cancer patients, caps for newborn babies. We would love to have you join us for coffee and conversation. We would be happy to help you get started on any project that you have always wanted to do.

You do not have to be a resident of Lakes on Eldridge to join us. For more information contact:

Catherine Spellings at CTSpellings@ aol.com, or call 713-628-7083 or 713-896-1652.



### Yoga and Relaxation

Meditation Practice

After a long day, come stretch and unwind with some gentle yoga and relaxation meditation. No experience or flexibility needed except for a willing heart and open mind, and it is open to all residents free of charge. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a mat (borrowing mats are available at the class).

LOCATION: Lakes on Eldridge Club House or by the pool (weather dependent)

DATES: Tuesdays 8 to 9 pm, July 20 at the pool (weather permitting); June 27, Aug 3, 10, 24, and 31 at the clubhouse

CONTACT: Jennifer Adams, adamsjjenn@gmail.com and 713-466-1346



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# HOME TRENDS IN LOEN & LOE

2009 / 2010	LAKES ON ELDRIDGE NORTH			LAKES ON ELDRIDGE			
QUARTER	# of Homes Listed	# of Homes Sold	Absorption Rate	# of Homes Listed	# of Homes Sold	Absorption Rate	
Quarter 1	35	17	48.5%	23	4	17.3%	
Quarter 2	27	21	77.7%	27	16	59.2%	
Quarter 3	14	10	71.4%	20	9	45.0%	
Quarter 4	20	6	30.0%	13	6	46.0%	
Total	96	54	Avg: 56.9%	83	35	42.1%	

Absorption rate =  $sold/listed \times 100$ 

Kank Hauk

Special Thanks to all who participated in the food drive for February & March.

### DANIELLE GEBARA

Resident of Lakes on Eldridge North

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### STRATEGIES FOR A POSSIBLE LAYOFF



A family's most important financial strategies include defensive ones. What if you or your spouse might get laid off in the near future? But you might not get laid off too, so what types of things should a family do? The challenge is to protect your family's assets while staying on-plan to secure your future finances.

First, stay with your retirement savings plan. Keep on contributing because it reduces your taxes and your company may make matching contributions. Combined, these will do you more good than paying off consumer debt. And avoid borrowing against a retirement plan or worse, withdrawing funds early. The taxes and penalties for this are severe.

Next reduce your spending, say, by 10%. This is a good idea

regardless of your situation and the upside is you might reconnect with what is important. Distinguish between wants versus needs. Include the kids on the family decisions. Now that you have more money, it's time to boost your emergency fund. Everyone needs 3 to 6 months of expenses in a readily accessible account. This helps you avoid going into debt when emergencies arise.

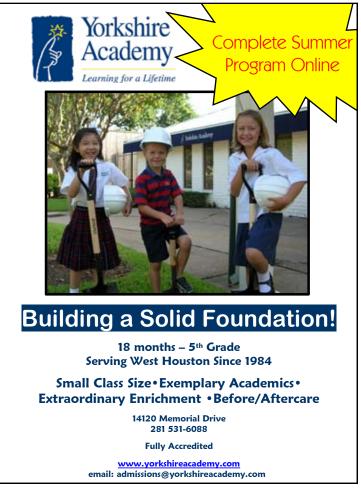
Secure your life insurance. This protects your income stream. If you have a group life plan, it will disappear with a job loss. And group plans often have steep increases when you hit those magic milestones every 5 years after 40. Buying a policy outside the company is called portable insurance, and it's smart.

Next knock down your consumer debt. By that I mean anything with a "minimum payment" box – that's bad debt. Use debt-stacking techniques to get out of debt quicker while paying no more on a monthly basis. It's smart to open a home equity line of credit now but don't borrow against it. Think of it as a safety net.

Lastly, secure your home by refinancing while interest rates are low. While you could get a 15-year note, it's smart to get a 30-year loan and pay it off as though it were a 15-year note using higher payments. In this way if you get laid off you can always revert to the lower payments required by the 30-year note.

- Submitted by Rich Keith





### **GET YOUR GRILL ON**

Summer Is Here!

#### **HEALTHIER RECIPESTIPS**

Summer is here. That means summer Barbecue in the great outdoors and enjoying the company of family and friends. There are all kinds of tasty foods to grill up, plus those sides, desserts and drinks that round out the meal. Unfortunately, this leads to an influx of excess calories and weight gain. There goes your beach body that you worked so hard for. Here are some simple barbecue alternative recipes that can help keep you lean and healthy through the summer season when grilling.

#### **GRILLED VEGGIE BURGER**

- 4 Garden Veggie burger patties
- 2 Medium red vine tomatoes, sliced
- 2 Dill pickles, sliced
- 1 Bottle of mustard, ketchup, and/or light mayonnaise \* use sparingly
- Green leaf lettuce
- 4 Whole grain hamburger buns
- 2 Grilled medium onion, sliced

#### **GRILLED SOY HOT DOGS**

- 4 Yves meatless hot dogs
- 1 Bottle of mustard and/or ketchup \* use sparingly
- 1 Can of Amy's vegetarian chili
- ½ Cup of dill pickle chopped
- 4 Whole or sprouted grain hot dog buns
- 1 Medium red vine tomato, diced
- 1 Medium sweet onion, diced

#### **GRILLED VEGETABLE KABOBS**

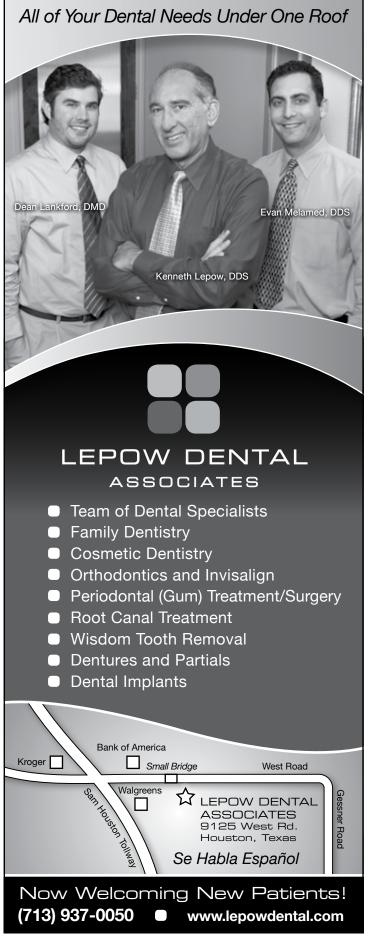
- 2 zucchini
- 1 red bell pepper
- 1 yellow bell pepper
- 1 onion
- 12 oz halved mushrooms
- 4 skewers

Cut bell peppers, onions, and zucchini into uniform pieces. Thread the vegetables onto the skewers. Optionally brush with oil and vinegar and then place on grill until vegetables are tender and slightly brown.

Optional side dishes: Grilled corn on the cob, baked BBQ chips, watermelon, or fresh fruit mixture.

- BY VALERIE SALINAS, M.S.







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# - Kids Stuff-

Section for Kids with news, puzzles, games and more!



Isn't the Fourth of July great? In addition to being a celebration of America's independence as a nation, there's no school, lots of families have barbecues or cookouts, and you can go see a fireworks display at night.

The safest way to enjoy fireworks is at a professional display. Some people light sparklers at home or even set off their own fireworks, but this is dangerous. More than 10,000 people were treated at hospital emergency rooms for fireworks-related injuries in 2005. And almost half of those injured each year are kids under age 15. Some of the people hurt each year aren't the ones setting off the fireworks, but people who are nearby

It's best to stay away from areas where nonprofessionals are setting off fireworks. Fireworks can cause serious eye injuries, including blindness, if the eye tissue gets damaged or torn. Other common injuries from fireworks include burns to the hands and face, which can leave scars. Someone could even lose one or more fingers if fireworks go off the wrong way. Fireworks

can also start fires, which can hurt even more people.

If you know someone who plans to set off fireworks at home, here are some safety tips to share:

- · Only adults should light fireworks.
- · Never use fireworks indoors.
- Be prepared to put out a fire by having a hose or water nearby.
- Light fireworks one at a time.
- Stay away from a firework that has not gone off and never try to relight it.

Sparklers may seem less dangerous than fireworks, but they get extremely hot — as hot as 1,800° Fahrenheit (982° Celsius). Sparklers can light clothes on fire and can cause kids to get badly burned. In fact, in 2005, more than 1,000 people were treated in emergency rooms for injuries from sparklers. That would take the fun out of a great holiday!

Reviewed by: Larissa Hirsch, MD

Date reviewed: June 2007

Originally reviewed by: Barbara P. Homeier, MD

This information was provided by KidsHealth, one of the largest resources online for medically reviewed health information written for parents, kids, and teens. For more articles like this one, visit www.KidsHealth.org or www. TeensHealth.org. ©1995-2006.The Nemours Foundation

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Lakes on Eldridge - July 2010 1



### Attention KIDS: Send Us Your Masterpiece!

Color the drawing below and mail the finished artwork to us at:

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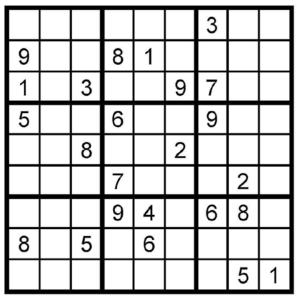
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We will select the top few and post their artwork online at www.PEELinc.com. DUE: July 31st



### 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.



\*Solution at www.PEELinc.com

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