



LAKES

ON ELDRIDGE

Volume 9, Issue 8
August 2010

Official Newsletter
www.lakesoneldridge.net

TIMELY TIPS FOR AUGUST GARDENERS

From Cornelius Nursery

Color for the heat of summer! How many of you scoff at the idea and mumble under your breath that it's impossible? But the "FlameProof for Texas" plants will make a believer out of you, and let you enjoy garden color through fall. Every year over 3,000 plants are tested at the Dallas Arboretum Trial Gardens, and those plants that can best take the Texas heat and thrive are "FlameProof"! These plants will look great in your garden from May right up until first frost.

IN AUGUST LOOK FOR:

- ***Lobularia 'Snow Princess'***-Blooms fragrant white flowers and grows only 4 to 6 inches tall.
- ***Torenia 'Catalina Midnight Blue'***-Dark blue Snapdragon-like blooms on plants 8 to 16 inches tall.
- ***Coleus 'Kingswood Torch'***-Vivid dark foliage thrives in full to part sun.
- ***Coleus 'Royal Glissade'***-Light moss-green leaves with raspberry touches will tolerate full sun or part shade.
- ***Salvia 'Mystic Spires'***-True blue flowers attract butterflies and hummingbirds.

Visit www.mytexasgarden.com for more gardening tips, information and to become a member of our Garden Club.

Yard Of The Month

CALLOWAY/ CORNELIUS NURSERY
GOOD NEIGHBOR PROGRAM



*Anne & Anthony,
5501 Cardinal Bay*



*Elizabeth & Michael,
5638 Ivory Mist*

With all the rain we have had, Mother Nature has definitely done her part in showcasing many of the homes this month! Keep up the gardening! The following are names and photos of our TWO WINNERS and names of our TWO HONORABLE MENTIONS for AUGUST:

WINNERS:

ANNE & ANTHONY ROSSI, 5501 CARDINAL BAY
ELIZABETH & MICHAEL MCCURDY, 5638 IVORY MIST

HONORABLE MENTIONS:

5518 ISLAND BREEZE
BILL & CATHY BARROWS, 5110 INDIAN SHORE LN.

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

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 Trinh N. Basarabescu or Helga Chandler with AMI at 713-932-1122. Leave the number where you can be reached. Mr. Taylor will then forward your message to one of the following board members:

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

Visit the Association Website:
www.lakesoneldridge.net

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Office Hours
Mon - Fri 7am - 6pm
Saturdays 8am - 1pm
713/937-4484

Drainage Modifications

MUD 341 recently inspected some storm sewers in LOE to investigate complaints of slow draining street drains during heavy rains. Inspections revealed that the storm sewers were basically clear and should provide adequate capacity. Therefore MUD 341 decided to increase the inlet capacity by adding a storm grate in front of the curb drains in an area known to back up during big storms. About six storm sewer inlets were modified, which successfully improved street drainage into the sewer system and stopped the localized street flooding during heavy rains. MUD 341 has requested that we advise them if there are any other problem areas in LOE. If you observe water backing up and almost covering the street, please report the locations to AMI who will forward the information to the MUD board for review.

REMINDER: LOE 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!

PLEASE SCOOP YOUR DOG'S POOP!

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



LAKEs ON ELDRIDGE

2nd Quarter Neighborhood Averages

Price Range	Under 400K	400K to 600K	600K Plus	Totals of All Rentals
Number of Sales	9	2	1	5
Avg. List Price	\$320,022	\$538,000	\$875,000	\$3,730
*Avg. Sales Price	\$308,444	\$530,750	\$824,000	\$3,615
Avg. Sq. Footage	3256	4035	5834	3535
Avg. Price per Sq.Ft.	\$94.73	\$131.54	\$141.24	\$1.02
Days on Market	48	57	58	54
SP/LP Ratio	97%	99%	94%	97%

*Adjusted sales price after seller contributions to closing costs or repairs.
Values are based on averages from all sales, per MLS.

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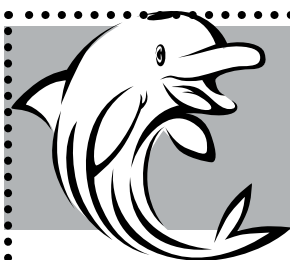


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Lakes on Eldridge



Lakes on Eldridge Dolphins Swim Team News

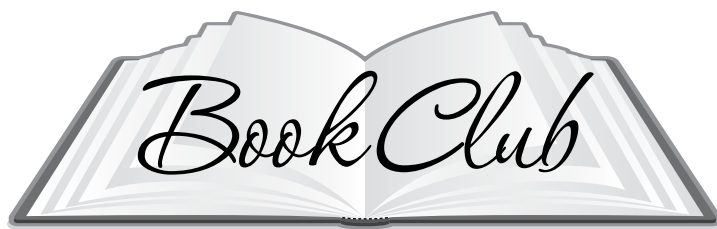
Well, another great season is over, capped by a 3rd place in the Divisionals! CONGRATULATIONS to all children in the team, who one and all put their best effort for themselves and for the team. And a resounding THANK YOU to our wonderful, dedicated coaches that helped them excel, and to all the Chair position volunteers and all parents who made it all happen. We will need you again next year! We thank also the outgoing Board and welcome the new Board for 2011 (can you believe it?) who are already planning for even greater successes next year.

FALL PROGRAM – LOEST is again offering a 10-week swim program available to all Swim Team members and other interested residents not currently on the team. Practices run from August 23 to October 28, 2008 on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at the following times:

4:40PM TO 5:25PM - 10 AND UNDER

5:30PM TO 6:30PM - 11 AND UP

This year's program is designed to maintain physical conditioning and to promote stroke development for our swimmers. The total cost for the 10-week program is \$115 per swimmer. No volunteer hours are required. Check the website www.loedolphins.org for details, and also for everything and anything about the MIGHTY LOEST DOLPHINS!



Our reading list 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. Also drop her a note by email at celeste.fritz@gmail.com, if you have any book recommendations.

UPCOMING BOOKS:

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

What happens when a trained killer discovers, in the aftermath of war, that his true vocation is love? From the award-winning New York Times bestselling author of *Love Medicine* comes an enchanting, richly imagined world "where butchers sing like angels."

- **September 27 - *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* by Stieg Larsson.**

This remarkable first novel by the Swedish journalist Stieg Larsson has been a huge bestseller in Europe. It is an intelligent, ingeniously plotted, utterly engrossing thriller that is variously a serial-killer saga, a search for a missing person and an informed glimpse into the worlds of journalism and business.

- **October 25 - *Sarah's Key* by Tatiana de Rosnay.**

In the summer of 1942, the French police arrested thousands of Jewish families and held them outside of Paris before shipping them off to Auschwitz. On the 60th anniversary of the roundups, an expatriate American journalist covering the atrocities discovers a personal connection—her apartment was formerly occupied by one such family. She resolves to find out what happened to Sarah, the 10-year-old daughter, who was the only family member to survive.



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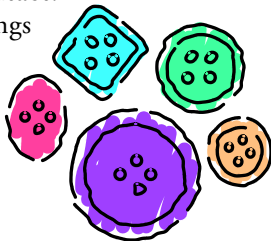
Lakes on Eldridge

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,
Aug 3, 10, (NO Class on the 16th), 24,
and 31 at the clubhouse

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



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TEAM TIARA

Team Tiara, a non-profit foundation dedicated to raising money to fund research and education for breast cancer. Each member of our team is committed to raising \$2300 to walk the Susan G. Komen 3-Day for a Cure. In addition to walking in the 3-Day, we provide direct assistance to men and women whose lives have been touched by breast cancer. To continue our efforts Team Tiara will be hosting Passionately Pink for the Cure, a gala benefiting Team Tiara & Susan G. Komen 3-Day

**Saturday, October 2, 2010
6:00 pm**

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Tickets \$50/person, \$90/couple**

TO PURCHASE TICKETS/MORE INFORMATION:
www.teamtiara.net/gala
Or mail in form

PASSIONATELY PINK FOR THE CURE ORDER FORM

Name: _____
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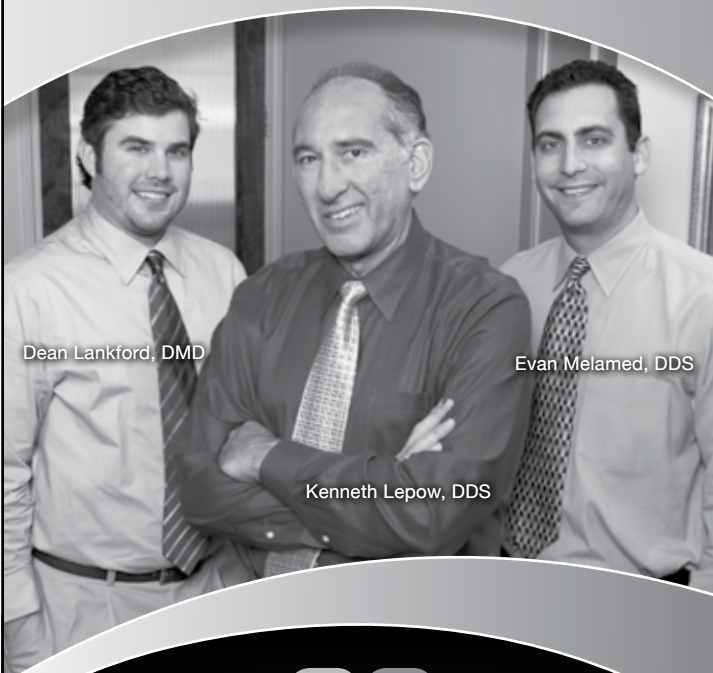
_____ Individual Ticket / \$50 _____ Couple Ticket / \$90
_____ Add'l Drink Tickets / \$6

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed.
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MAIL FORM TO

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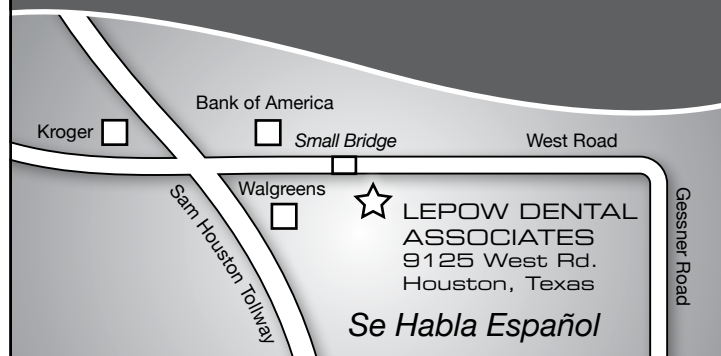
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Lakes on Eldridge

Out of the DARKNESSSM

COMMUNITY WALKS
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

Walk in the Houston Out of the Darkness Community Walk on Saturday, November 6th, 2010 at Stude Park, 1030 Stude Street, benefiting the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Join us for this powerful and inspiring event to help make suicide prevention a national priority and to end the stigma of mental illness & suicide. To learn more and register, log on to www.outofthedarkness.org.

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.



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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 x 100

Thank You!

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



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Tips and Guidelines

How Should You Prepare For Power Outages?

- In the event of severe weather, such as a hurricane, power outages are likely to occur.
- For widespread power outages, CenterPoint Energy has a restoration process by priorities that will be followed in the event of a major storm.
- When a major storm is forecast, all customers should plan to be without power for an extended amount of time following landfall.
- If someone in your home depends on electricity for life-sustaining equipment, you need to make other arrangements. Evacuation would be a good option.
- Turn off your electricity at the circuit breaker if you evacuate and expect flood water to approach your home.
- Unplug sensitive electrical appliances, such as TV and computers.
- Maintain line clearance from trees and weak limbs.
- What should you do following a major storm or hurricane?
- Limit calls to CenterPoint Energy during the first few days to only true emergencies. CNP's technology indicates locations in the case of widespread power outages.
- The company's first priority in restoring service is to key facilities vital to safety,

health and welfare, such as hospitals, water treatment plants and public service facilities. Second priorities are the major lines and circuits that will restore power to the greatest number of customers in the shortest amount of time. Third priority, we repair transformers, which typically serve 10 customers and finally fourth priority, we repair individual electric service drops to homes.

- Restoration times can vary for severe weather event. Under CenterPoint Energy's restoration process, your neighbor's power may be restored before yours if there is a problem with your individual service drop.
- Stay away from low-hanging or downed power lines. Treat all downed power lines as if they are energized. Report low-hanging or downed power lines to (713) 207-2222.
- Avoid standing water – energized power lines could be submerged in the water.
- If you have evacuated and want to check your home for electric service, please do not call CenterPoint Energy in the first few days following the storm. Instead, we suggest: leave your answering machine activated and call your house to check if it picks up, call neighbors, monitor the news, and check website CenterPointEnergy.com for general outage information.

- Do not connect generators directly to wiring in a house or building without having a licensed electrician disconnect the wiring from CenterPoint Energy's service. It can create a safety hazard for CenterPoint Energy's lineman.
- Never run generators indoors or in a garage. Gasoline-powered generators can produce carbon monoxide, and the odorless fumes can be deadly.
- What should you do if your electrical outlets are covered with water or you have damage to weatherhead or other electrical facilities?
- Contact a licensed electrician before turning on the main circuit breaker.
- Check your weatherhead, which connects the overhead power line to your home or business. Any weatherhead problems will need to be repaired by your electrician prior to CNP restoring service. (Your electrician should obtain all permits required prior to you contacting CNP for a work order.)
- Any submerged appliances or equipment will need to dry for at least one week and be checked by a qualified repair person prior to being turned on.
- Once all repairs have been made to your electrical equipment, then contact your provider and they will issue a work order to CenterPoint Energy to begin work and restore your service.

HURRICANE	WIND SPEED	ESTIMATED OUTAGE
CATEGORY 1	Winds 74-95 mph	7 to 10 days
CATEGORY 2	Winds 96-110 mph	2 to 3 weeks
CATEGORY 3	Winds 111-130 mph	3 to 5 weeks
CATEGORY 4	Winds 131-155 mph	4 to 6 weeks
CATEGORY 5	Winds 156 mph and up	6 to 8 weeks

CenterPoint Energy Customer Service Contact:

Electric Service: 1 (800) 332-7143 or (713) 207-2222

Gas Service: 1 (800) 752-8036 or (713) 659-2111

CenterPointEnergy.com/stormcenter



Lakes on Eldridge

COMPUTING 101: KEEPING UP TO DATE

Keeping your computer up to date is the single best way to avoid problems caused by viruses, hackers and just misbehaving software. So what do you need to do to keep your system current? Well, actually not very much. Your key programs will tell you when they need to be updated.

Most important is your operating system. Both Windows and the Mac regularly check for any updates that are needed. Microsoft usually saves its updates for the 2nd Tuesday of each month, but sometimes a critical security update will be pushed earlier than that. It is VERY important that when you get a notice on your Mac or you see the little yellow shield in the lower right corner of your PC that you allow those updates to install. The updates may be to fix bugs that make your system run better, but they may also be to plug holes that the bad guys have discovered as a way to gain access to your computer. Last month I mentioned that Microsoft was ending support for Windows 2000 and Windows XP (with Service Pack 2.) If you're still using Windows XP, right-click on "My Computer" and select "Properties" to check your installation. You need to be running Service Pack 3 to continue getting updates from Microsoft. If you're on a Mac, Apple may soon stop updating "Tiger" (OSX 10.4), and Mozilla (the ones who make the Firefox browser) has already said they will no longer support Tiger.

If your anti-virus software is not updating because it's expired or just not working right, either renew it or fix it. There are good free products available like Microsoft Security Essentials, AVG, Avast and others for the PC. There's no reason not to have basic protection on your computer. Mac's are pretty secure from viruses because nobody bothers with them. The famous bank robber from the early 1930's Willie Sutton was once asked "Why do you rob banks?" He simply replied "Because that's where the money is." With Windows machine about 90% of the market, that's where the bad guys go for the money.

So the browsers (the program you use to get on the Internet) are next in line for updating. It doesn't matter if you use Internet Explorer, Firefox, Safari, Chrome or some other browser, this is a major avenue of attack for the bad guys because they are out there just waiting for you to come to them. If you click on "Help" or "About" in your browser you'll see what version you are using. If you are using Internet Explorer 6, RUN, don't walk to your computer and download IE8. IE7 users should update also. The latest Firefox version as of this writing is 3.6.6. I still find people using Firefox 2.x. It's time to update! Version 4 is now in beta testing and should

(Continued on Page 15)

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- Garage Floor Epoxy
- Custom Staining
- Roofing
- Gutter Repair/Replacement
- Faux Painting

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Computing 101 - (Continued from Page 14)

be out soon. The latest version of Safari is now 5.0 and is available at apple.com. Google Chrome versions vary depending on what operating system you're on, but if you use Chrome, you're probably geeky enough already to keep it current.

Adobe is one of the worst offenders in keeping you secure. Both Acrobat Reader (for .pdf files) and Flash (for viewing most online videos and animation) constantly are found to have significant problems and Adobe is often slow to correct them. You should go to www.adobe.com/downloads to download the latest versions of Reader and Flash.

Now that your system is completely up to date, don't get complacent or a false sense of security, if you're careless on the Internet or with your email, you can still get bit. Take all the precautions you want, if you decide to walk down a dark alley in New York in the middle of the night, you still might find yourself in trouble.

So be smart, keep your computer up to date and enjoy all the goodness your computer and the Internet can bring you (and stay out of the dark alleys.)

SUBMITTED BY LAURIE SCOTT

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Price Range:	\$251,000 \$1,050,000	\$229,900 \$323,600	\$237,500 \$824,000
Average Price	\$576,064	\$280,328	\$402,442
Avg Price/sq.ft.	\$136.61	\$104.47	\$105.96
Avg DOM	64	29	80
High Price/sq.ft.			\$156.83
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- Kids Stuff -

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



Are you ready for a road trip? People in the United States will take millions of trips this year — many of them traveling by car. The most popular treks are trips to the beach, visits to friends and family, and scenic drives. A scenic drive means there's something to see while you're driving, like an ocean, mountains, or a beautiful valley.

But sometimes when you're on the road, there isn't a whole lot to look at. For those times, you'll need to keep yourself busy. Here are some ideas:

- Bring a small map or road atlas. Use stickers to track your family's progress.
- Create a trip box that includes stickers, pipe cleaners, pens, paper, and anything else you want to have on hand.
- Draw. You can draw what's outside your window or make a game out of it by drawing a picture of someone that you know and making everyone guess who it is.
- Start writing in a trip journal and keep track of what you do each day on your vacation. Add photos later.
- Read aloud — a scary story or a mystery are great choices.

- Make up your own story and draw the illustrations to go with it.
- Listen to a book on tape or CD.
- Listen to music.
- Sing silly songs that you might be too old for, like "Old MacDonald," "B-I-N-G-O," and "She'll Be Coming 'Round the Mountain" — or even Christmas songs if you're in the mood. For added fun, make up your own silly songs with your family's help.
- Snooze.
- Play "I Spy."
- Play the license plate game by trying to spot as many different states as you can.
- Play "20 Questions."
- Play travel games, such as checkers, that have magnetic pieces that won't slip off the board.
- Play the "My Favorite" game by picking your top five songs, books, ice cream flavors, sports heroes, etc.
- Have a spelling bee or trivia contest. Bring index cards to write down words or questions.
- Don't fight with your brother or sister!

Reviewed by: Steven Dowshen, MD

Date reviewed: May 2009

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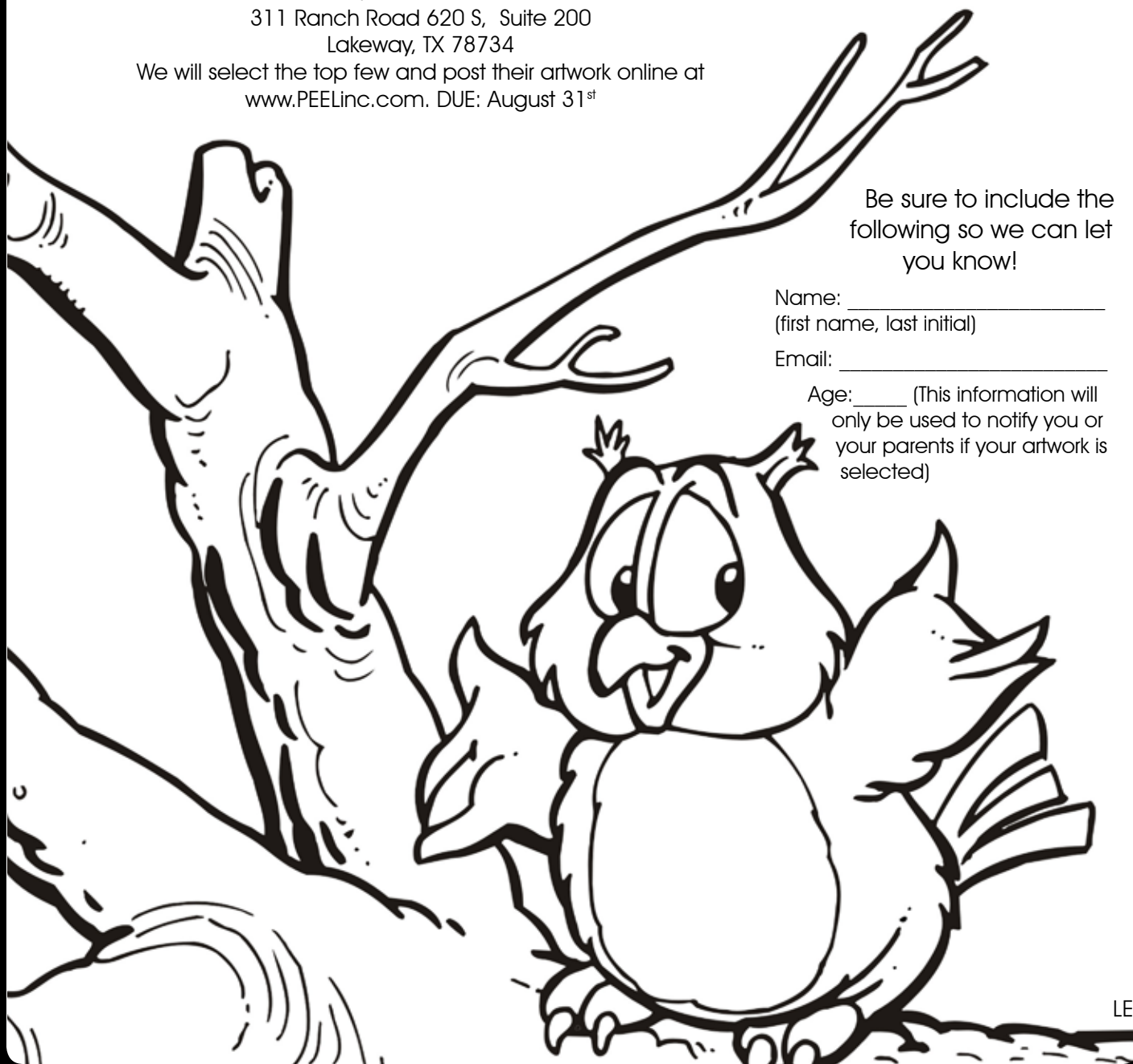
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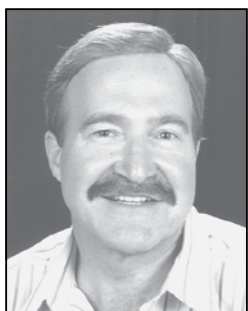
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