

Volume 10, Issue 10 October 2011 Official Newsletter www.lakesoneldridge.net

OCTOBER YARD OF THE MONTH Calloway / Cornelius Good Neighbor Program

August definitely was the hottest month on record for any State ever, yet many of you are still giving amazing care and devotion to your yards. These yards are well kept and reflect the pride we have in our neighborhoods. Congratulations to the following residents:





CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF YOU FOR A JOB WELL DONE! Winners, please allow 8 weeks for receiving your gift certificate from Cornelius.

WINNER: JENNIFER ADAMS 5618 HEATHER RUN

WINNER:
JASON & TIFFANY
MELTON
5402 WINDHAM SPRINGS
HONORABLE MENTION:
KLAUS T. KLAUSTERMAN
5503 EVENING SHORES

HONORABLE MENTION: LEONARD CARGILL JR. & SANDY REDD 12119 EMBER ISLAS LN

Annual LOE Homeowners Meeting

Mark your calendars for the 2011 Homeowners meeting, which will be on October 25th at 7:00 pm at Kirk Elementary School. On the agenda is the election of two officers, a review of the year's accomplishments, and a review of the 2012 budget. The meeting will be held in the cafeteria/auditorium, which must be accessed from the rear of the building, as the front doors will be locked. Plan on arriving a little early, so everyone will have enough time to sign in and the meeting can start on time.

KEEP SAVING WATER!

This year rain has been a very scarce commodity around here! As a consequence, the levels of our Houston area reservoirs, which we depend on to provide us with water for all our daily needs, have been dropping steadily. (To check on the latest status, go to wiid.twdb.state.tx.us/ims/resinfo/BushButton/lakeStatus.asp, and select Planning Region H.) And all the predictions are that the drought will not end any time soon, so we all need to keep saving water! Go to www.watersmart.org for tips on how you can do your part to help!

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 Office								
Reliant Energy								
CenterPoint (gas)								
Center Point (street light)713-207-2222								
(give pole # of street which is out)								
Comcast								
Houston Chronicle								
Metro Transit Info713-635-4000								
Kirk Elementary								
Truitt Middle School								
Cy-Falls High School281-856-1000								
Cy-Ridge High School								
Newsletter Publisher								
Peel, Incadvertising@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444								

LOE Board Of Directors

To contact a member of the Board of Directors, call Richard Lowstetter with AMI at 713-932-1122. Leave the number where you can be reached. Your message will then be forwarded onto one of the following board members:

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

Visit the Association Website: www.lakesoneldridge.net



TIMELY TIPS FOR OCTOBER GARDENERS

From Cornelius Nursery

Usher in the autumn season with creative displays for indoors or out! Pumpkins, gourds and bales of hay have started arriving in stores in late September. Combine them with pots of mums and other blooming color and a transformation quickly occurs!

Create an eye-catching vignette in your landscape with bales of hay, a scarecrow or two, multiple sizes of pumpkins and pots of garden mums or other seasonal color. Create a pyramid of pumpkins and squash by selecting different colors and stacking them one on top of the other. Simply displaying a "pile" of pumpkins in the same color palette and different sizes will draw ones eye and interest to an area of your landscape.

Color Creations filled with blooming or colorful foliage plants can be used on patios and porches. Freshen up existing containers and nestle an interesting pumpkin or gourd in amongst the plants. You can also fill a favorite container or pot with a mixture of produce for a simple, impressive look!

A pumpkin or squash can easily become a festive flowerpot for fall. Select a perfect "container", one without any scratches or nicks and one that will sit flat and not roll around. Cut an opening and remove the loose pulp inside. Add potting soil and plant directly into the "container" or leave the plants in their own pots and place them in the "container". Remember that this is only a temporary but unique flowerpot!

Achieving a colorful transformation that will carry your home and landscape through Thanksgiving is just a clinic away! Cornelius will be hosting the following informative clinics during the month of October. Please join us as we celebrate the arrival of autumn!

SATURDAY, OCT. IST AT 10:15 AM-

Fall Displays in the Landscape-

Create charming vignettes in your Fall landscape. Easy and fun!

SATURDAY, OCT. 8TH AT 10:15 AM-

Autumn Colors in Containers-

Bring smiles to the faces of autumn guests by the clever use of flowers and pumpkins.

SATURDAY, OCT. 29TH AT 10:15 AM-

Spring Bulbs-Fall Planting?

Start planning now for those cheerful drifts of early spring color!

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



Fall Fun! Autumn Fun Events ANN P. KNOCHE

OFF: 281.582.3911 • CELL: 281.844.1111

October 6th-9th • 45th Annual Greek Festival, Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral near the Museum District, www.greekfestival.org

October 8th • Galveston ArtWalk, Throughout the City, Galveston www.galveston.com/artwalk

October 8th & 9th • 4oth Annual Bayou City Art Festival Downtown, City Hall and Hermann Square in Houston www.bayoucityartfestival.com

October 8th & 9th • Scarecrow Festival, Chappell Hill, www.chappellhillmuseum.org/festivals, or 979-836-6033

October 8th & 9th • Katy Rice Harvest Festival, Historic Downtown Katy, www.riceharvestfestival.org

October 8th-27th • Texas Renaissance Festival, Between Magnolia and Plantersville, www.texrenfest.com or call 1-800-458-3435

October 12th-16th • 82nd Annual Austin County Fair & Rodeo, Austin County Fair Grounds, Bellville, TX, www.austincountyfair.com and click on Calendar

October 14th-16th • Conroe Cajun Catfish Festival, Downtown Conroe square, www.conroecajuncatfishfestival.com

October 15th & 16th • Wings Over Houston, Ellington Airport, www.wingsoverhouston.com

October 22nd • 27th Annual Texian Market Days Festival, George Ranch Historical Park, www.georgeranch.org



RECYCLING DAY RESULTS

We would like to start by thanking everyone who participated in the LOE Recycling Day on August 20th. We also want to say thank you to Jacky Clay who was instrumental in organizing the recycling event and sponsoring the survey. Jacky used this opportunity to earn her Girl Scout Gold Award – the highest rank that is awarded in Girl Scouts. We had clear weather and residents that attended got to meet their neighbors and representatives of the social organizations and clubs at LOE. As a result of the club activity, Carrie Loid will be organizing an Evening Bunko event. Check out the LOE newsletter and website for future information. Anke Arnold with Pet Safety also sponsored a "Pet Chipping" booth where several residents "chipped" their pets to identify them immediately if they are lost. The LOE Swim Team provided much appreciated snacks and drinks for everyone on the hot August morning.

AMI had a table and handed out LOE automobile stickers and sold over 40 new remote controls to people who needed new and replacement units. Special thanks to Richard Lowstetter and Kerry Holmes of AMI who donated their Saturday morning and help to make this day a huge success. Jay Koetter – VP Business Development with NuValTech also attended and provided a great crew that unloaded the scrap electronics from resident's vehicles and sorted the donated goods. ShredTex brought their commercial truck mounted paper shredder and safely disposed of multiple loads of paper filling the 96 gallon shredding containers. Shredding legal and personal documents eliminates any chance of identity theft and

I think we all know of someone who has had to deal with lost or stolen credit cards and banking information.

We had a really good turn out and there was a constant line of cars from 8am to a little after noon and a good portion of residents went back home to get more items to be recycled. The most common recycling items were computers and printers, followed closely by televisions and monitors. Many of the televisions were older models with rotary dials. All in all, it was fantastic knowing the toxic chemicals in these tems will not end up in a landfill and potentially

items will not end up in a landfill and potentially contaminating the soil and ground water.

Lastly, attendees were asked to fill out a neighborhood survey. We collected 95 surveys from LOE residents. Survey results showed a need for larger recycle bins and bulk waste pick-up. It is really good to see that LOE as a community is doing it's part to be environmentally iendly.

Now for the final numbers, drum roll please......LOE unloaded 7,900 pounds of electronics and 6,500 pounds of paper. NuValTech was so pleased with the results that they requested LOE set up another recycle day in the spring. LOE residents also echoed this request as it is a convenient and safe way to dispose of e-waste and private documents.

Thanks again to everyone who helped make this event such a success. We look forward to seeing many of you again. For those that missed the event, stay tuned to the LOE website www. lakesoneldridge.net for updates on the next Recycle Day.

BEST REGARDS, THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE







CALL ON US



orbes recently released its latest ranking of U.S. cities best positioned to grow and prosper in the coming decade, and Houston came in No. 5. The survey considered 52 of the nation's largest metro areas (those with populations of more than 1 million) and ranked them on the basis of data indicating past, present and future vitality. One-third of the score consisted of job growth; the remainder consisted of demographic factors, including family formation. Here's what Forbes likes about the Bayou City:

- Low housing prices
- Stable job market
- Vibrant immigrant community
- Burgeoning port
- Dominance of the world energy business

These factors prompted Forbes to label Houston a "future boom town ... destined to become even more influential in the coming decade." Please read the complete article at http://blogs.forbes.com/joelkotkin/2011/07/06/the-next-big-boom-towns-in-the-u-s/.

HOUSTON RANKED AN UPCOMING BOOM TOWN



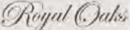
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LOE Community Day a Great Success



The first annual Lakes on Eldridge Recycling and Community Service Day was held on Saturday August 20th. By all measures the event was a great success, and many residents expressed the hope that it would be held again.

Trucks from NuValTech Recycling Company were on hand to take paper, household electronics, and batteries. Approximately 7200 lbs of recycling items were collected. Representatives from AMI were present to sell the new, smaller gate remotes, register vehicles and pass out vehicle decals, gather email addresses, and answer



questions. We also had representatives from our various committees and our various resident clubs on hand to discuss the clubs activities and sign up interested residents. Nearly 100 surveys were filled out.

As always, this event could not have happened without the hard work of our volunteers. Thanks to everyone from the social committee, our various clubs, and AMI who participated. A special thank you goes to Jacky Clay, who organized the recycling portion of the event for her Girl Scout Gold Award.

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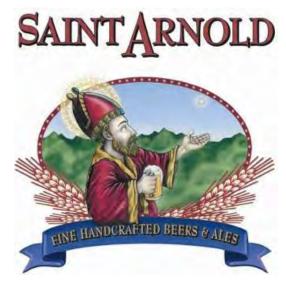


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Lakes on Eldridge Oktoberfest

The 4th Annual Lakes on Eldridge Oktoberfest is right around the corner. Join the LOE Social Committee at the Beach Club on FRIDAY 21st OCTOBER at 7:30 pm for a beer sampling with Houston's own Saint Arnold Brewery. Mark your calendars and tell your neighbors, as you won't want to miss this event. Last year over 130 people came out! Saint Arnold tasting glasses will be for sale for \$5 a person and the Saint Arnold crew will bring their 5 regular beers and a seasonal offering for sampling. Non-alcoholic refreshments and snacks will also be available.

Not familiar with Saint Arnold Brewery? Saint Arnold is a local brewery that brews ten different beers. Five are made year round and five are seasonal. They are available in bars, restaurants, grocery stores, liquor stores and warehouse stores in throughout Texas and now even Louisiana! From their website, www.saintarnold.com: "Saint Arnold Brewing Company, located in Houston, is Texas' Oldest Craft Brewery. Our goal is to brew world class beers and deliver them to our customers as fresh as possible making them the best beers in Texas. Our customers are beer lovers - people that appreciate great, full-flavored beers. Our small crew does everything at the brewery: brew the beer, filter the beer, keg the beer, bottle the beer, sell the beer and drink the beer. For us, this is a passion, not a job. We believe that this comes through in the beers we make. Our beers have soul." So get in the spirit and sample a few of their beers before LOE's own Oktoberfest.

We are looking forward to seeing you there! It is a great chance to get out and meet your neighbors and support a local business. For more details or to RSVP please contact Melissa at 281-639-9287 or melissa@melissahunzeker.com.

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- Bridgeland
- · Chelsea Harbour
- · Coles Crossing
- Copperfield
- Cypress Mill
- · Cypress Point
- Eagle Springs
- · Enchanted Valley
- Fairfield
- Fairwood
- Harvest Bend The Village
- Kleinwood
- Lakemont
- · Lakes of Fairhaven
- · Lakes of Rosehill
- · Lakes of Savannah
- · Lakes on Eldridge
- · Lakes on Eldridge North
- · Lakewood Grove

- · Legends Ranch
- Longwood
- North Lake Forest
- · Riata Ranch
- Riverpark on the Brazos
- Shadow Creek Ranch
- Silverlake
- Southage
- Steeplechase
- · Stone Forest
- · Stone Gate
- Summerwood
- Village Creek
- Villages of NorthPointe
- Willowbridge
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NORTHWEST HOUSTON MOTHERS OF MULTIPLES

The Northwest Houston Mothers of Multiples (www.nwhmom.org) is having a huge sale! Over 25 families with twins, triplets and more will be selling maternity, baby, toddler and children's clothing, toys, furniture, feeding supplies, carriers, you name it!

DATE: Saturday, October 1st
TIME: 7:00 am - 12:00 pm
WHERE: Kids R Kids Parking Lot
ADDRESS: 10740 Barker Cypress Rd

Cypress, TX 77433

Mark your calendars, tell your friends and come by and see for yourself!!"

NHWMOM Full hands...Full Hearts...

Yoga Practice

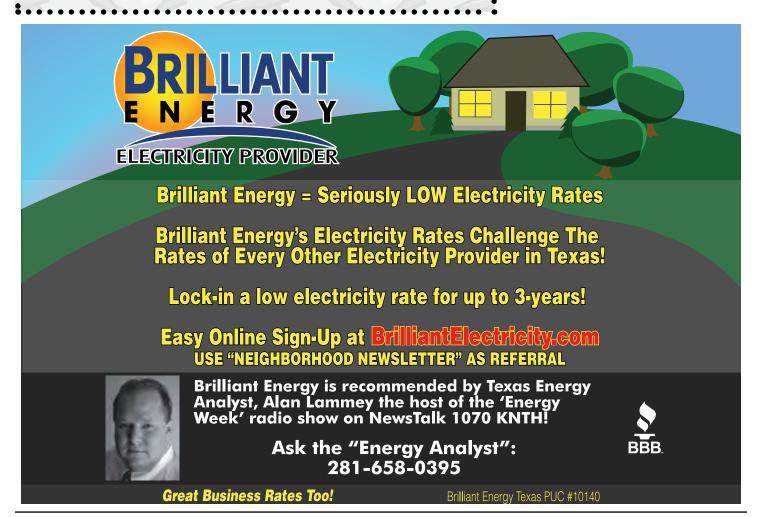
After a long day, come stretch and unwind with some gentle yoga. No experience or flexibility needed except for a willing heart and open mind, and it is open to all residents free of charge. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a mat (borrowing mats are available at the class).

Upcoming meetings will take place at 7:30 pm in the Lakes on Eldridge Club House on the following days:

October 4, 6, 11, 13, 20, 25, 27;

November 1, 3.

Contact Jennifer Adams, adamsjjenn@gmail.com and 832-628-5425 (NEW NUMBER) for more information.



Book Club

At our last meeting, we changed a few selections and set up our schedule for the remainder of 2011.

Book Club tries to cover a wide variety of topics so we each get out of our comfort zone and read something different. 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, if you have a book recommendation please drop her a note at celeste.fritz@gmail.com

UPCOMING BOOKS:

October 24 - <u>Day after Night</u> by Anita Diamant. (NOTE: Moved from Sept. to Oct.) This novel by the author of The Red Tent is based on a dramatic true story. In October 1945, more than 200 "illegal immigrant" prisoners at the Atlit internment camp in Palestine were freed. The story of this rescue, the friendships it forged, and its aftermath is told through the words of four young women who at first seem to share little except their incarceration

Dec. 5 - When the Bough Breaks by Jonathan Kellerman. (NOTE: Because of the holidays, we will combine Nov. and Dec. into one meeting.) A number of us are mystery fans, so our Christmas present to ourselves is to read the first of Kellerman's Alex Delaware series. *This will be our Christmas "party"*, and we will again have a blind book exchange for gifts. Select a book you have around your house that you think someone would like, wrap it up, and we'll add it to the pile. Everyone will pick one from the pile so we'll all end up with a book new to us (hopefully).



Lakes on Eldridge Bible Study Resumes

The LOE Bible study resumed to study Joshua, and how to live fearlessly. This thirteen week study consists of five twenty minute per day lessons each week. It addresses God's presence, His enablements, tactics, and monuments. Each lesson has scripture readings from the book of Joshua, a brief history of the times, prayer, and personal application.

The group gathers at 9:15 every Tuesday morning for fellowship before the discussion begins at 9:30. The lesson ends at 10:30. After a short break praise and prayer begins. On the first Tuesday of the month we all go out to lunch at a local restaurant.

We hope you will join us. The study guides are available at the meetings. If you need additional information, please email Stephanie at mrstjl10179@gmail.com.



National Night Out will be held on **October 4th at 6:30** pm. This year the event will go back to being held in each neighborhood. Flyers will be posted indicating the specific location of the block party within your neighborhood. Drinks and snacks will be provided. This is a great way to meet your neighbors and reinforce involvement in the safety of our community. Harris County Sheriff's Office representatives will be driving around to meet with residents.

National Night Out is a national crime prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch. The event is designed to generate support for, and participation in, local neighborhood watch programs, and to strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships.



NOTES FROM THE AUGUST BOARD MEETING

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Carlon Thorpe, Vice President Cory Hammond, Treasurer David King, Director

IN ATTENDANCE

Richard Lowstetter and Heidi Flores representing the managing agent, Association Management, Inc.

HOMEOWNER FORUM

No homeowners were present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Architectural Control:

Cory Hammond reported a discrepancy with an ARC application submitted by Unit 0228 and requested that managing agent review original documentation, and there was one approval for new windows.

Access Control:

R. Lowstetter stated that Meyer Smith has been requested to perform a thorough evaluation of all gates systems.

Parks & Pools:

R. Lowstetter stated that pool area did not experience any vandalism since last episode in July.

Landscape:

Carlon Thorpe expressed her concern regarding the continuous problems with the irrigation lines and stated that HLS and Water Logic are meeting on Wednesday, August 17th in efforts to identify and rectify ongoing issues. C. Thorpe also stated that due to the freeze and drought conditions experienced over the last year, the community is encountering dying shrubbery in large masses. Upon installation of new shrubbery, a drip irrigation system will be required to allow the root system to develop.

Lakes & Wildlife:

There were no items to discuss.

Communication:

C. Hammond requested confirmation of Annual Meeting date so it could be published in upcoming newsletter. C. Hammond also reported the community intranet for nonowner residents is now operational.

Social/Events:

C. Thorpe informed Board of Directors that seasonal flower placement would be initiated prior to Saturday Recycling Event.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Statements:

The Board reviewed the financial statements for the month ending July 31, 2011. The Association had a balance of \$401,694.90 in the Operating Fund and \$403,769.75 in the Replacement Fund. The Fund Balance for the year showed that income had exceeded expenses by \$34,418.11. The financials were accepted.

Accounts Receivable:

The Board reviewed the Accounts Receivable report and R. Lowstetter reported that AMI was in the process of turning over several accounts to Red Rock Financial Services for collection proceedings. The Accounts Receivable Report was accepted.

Cash Flow Report:

The Managing Agent advised the board that as of August 15, 2011 the association had \$373,999.40 in the operating account and \$396,723.15 in the Reserve Account, giving a total of \$770,722.55.

ADMINISTRATION

<u> 2012 Budget:</u>

R. Lowstetter presented the Board of

Directors with a 2012 draft budget for their review. Budget will be discussed in further detail at September meeting.

Annual Meeting:

Board of Directors requested that managing agent confirm availability with Kirk Elementary on either Tuesday, October 25th or Wednesday, October 26th. Board of Directors is to present current year accomplishments along with future goals at 2011 annual meeting.

Flag Poles and Solar Panels:

R. Lowstetter stated that association attorney is currently drafting a resolution regarding placement of flagpoles and recommended that one be drafted for positioning of solar panels. Recommendation for these resolutions resulted due to recent passed legislative bills which supersedes dedicatory instruments of association.

PHYSICAL PROPERTY

One Liner Report:

The Board was given the one-liner report for August.

Citations Report:

The managing agent gave the Board a copy of the latest Citation Report for their review.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

There was no additional business

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors is to be held on September 20, 2011 at 6:00p.m.

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Boy Scout Troop 61

Young men between the ages of 11-18 are encouraged to visit Boy Scout Troop 61 at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday nights at Peace Community Church, 5151 Addicks Satsuma Road, Houston, Texas, 77084. They will get a hands-on experience of what Scouting has to offer, and have the opportunity to visit with the Scouts and their adult leaders to learn more about the things the troop has done during meetings and activities.

Scouting activities include camping, fishing, archery, rifle/shotgun shooting, hiking, first aid, wilderness survival, community service, citizenship, swimming, leadership, white-water rafting and much more. Troop 61 camps each month and has a group that goes to High Adventure Camp and to Merit Badge Camps each summer.

Boy Scout Troop 61 meets from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. every Wednesday in the Activity Room at Peace Community Church.

Contact Mike Viator with Troop 61 if your son is interested in joining a local Boy Scout Troop: Cell 713-409-1934, mike.viator@comcast.net.



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These are just a few of the words we at Yorkshire live by.

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New Evening BUNCO Group Forming

If you are interested in information regarding an evening BUNCO group, please contact Carrie Loid @ cgloid@hotmail.com or call 440-382-0773.

If you don't already know, BUNCO is a table game played with dice and is a fun social event. No skills are necessary! We will be meeting one night a month September through May. We will need regular members as well as substitutes so please get in touch!

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.



Kappa Alpha Theta

NW Harris County alumnae, you are invited to join your Theta sisters for our 2011/2012 activities! Our group meets throughout the year for evening gatherings, lunch, museums and founders day. For more information or a calendar of events please email thetadonna@yahoo.com or call Kim at 281-370-2224.

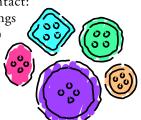


Stitch & Chat

Members of Stitch and Chat meet every Thursday from 10 a.m. until 12 noon at the LOE Beach Club House. We knit, crochet, do needle point, embroidery, and counted cross stitch, plus mend items and sew on buttons that we have put off much too long. We make quilts for family members, shawls for cancer patients, and 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.

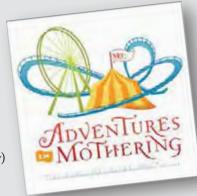


MOPS at The MET Registration

Join the Adventure! Get Connected...with MOPS!

If you need a listening ear, friendship with other moms, your kids involved in a fun program, delicious breakfast buffets, advice from seasoned moms.... then you need MOPS at The MET.

Two dynamic groups meet two Friday mornings per month (August – May) from 9:15 – 11:45a.m.



Childcare is provided upon registration.

Register online at TheMETonline.org/MOPS or visit us at facebook.com/METmops
If you have any questions please call (281)890-1900.



PEOPLE PROTECTING OUR PARKS

New Fire Safety Campaign for City of Houston Parks

People Protecting Our Parks calls on all Houstonians to proactively protect the City's parklands during the ongoing drought. The campaign has two main goals: fire prevention education and the protection of public parklands. The first step in this campaign is the issuance of a temporary ban on all barbeque pits in City of Houston Parks

The temporary ban on barbeque pits will remain in effect until further notice. Signage notifying the public about the ban will be placed in the parks. To allow for a period of public education, warnings will be issued to violators until City Council adopts a permanent enforcement mechanism next week.

HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING SAFETY TIPS DURING THIS DROUGHT:

Barbeque Safety

- Portable barbecue pits, charcoal grills and other open-flame cooking devices outside of a building should not be operated on combustible balconies or located within 10 feet of combustible walls or roofs or other combustible materials.
- When igniting the barbecue charcoal, use a charcoal lighter, not gasoline. Gasoline can flash violently in and around the pit causing serious injuries to anyone in the area of the flash. A fire extinguisher or charged garden hose should be handy while the fire is burning. Check the pit frequently to ensure that it is okay.
- Hot ash and coals from barbecue pits and charcoal burners should be placed in a non-combustible container until cooled or thoroughly saturated with water, before being disposed.

Open Flames

 The City of Houston Fire Code prohibits all open-burning within the Houston city limits at all times. The burn ban in unincorporated areas of Harris County also prohibits any outdoor open-burning, including the burning of: a bonfire, rubbish fire, campfire, trench fire, or other fire in an outdoor location when not contained.

Vehicles, Trailers and Tools

- Park vehicles so that the exhaust system does not come in contact with dry grass, leaves, or weeds.
- Adjust the safety chains on trailers to ensure they don't drag and create sparks that can cause roadside starts.
- Keep lawn mowers and agricultural equipment in proper working condition and avoid rocks and other materials which might cause a spark.
- Do not weld or cut without a spotter, a water source and a shovel.
- Notify the electric power company when dead trees or overhanging limbs endanger the electric wires. The wires may touch each other or the ground, causing sparks that start fires.

Cigarettes or Other Smoking Materials

- Another cause of accidental fires is carelessly discarded cigarettes
 or other smoking materials. They can smolder for hours and
 should be completely doused with water before being discarded
 in a safe manner, rather than tossed out a window or on the
 ground.
- Texas' arson law includes felony punishment for anyone whose cigarette recklessly sets fire to a building or injures anyone. Arson is a second-degree felony in Texas, punishable by up to 20 years in prison, but if a person is hurt or killed or if the fire involves a church, arson is a first-degree felony, carrying possible punishment of up to life in prison.

For more safety tips see www.houstontx.gov/fire.

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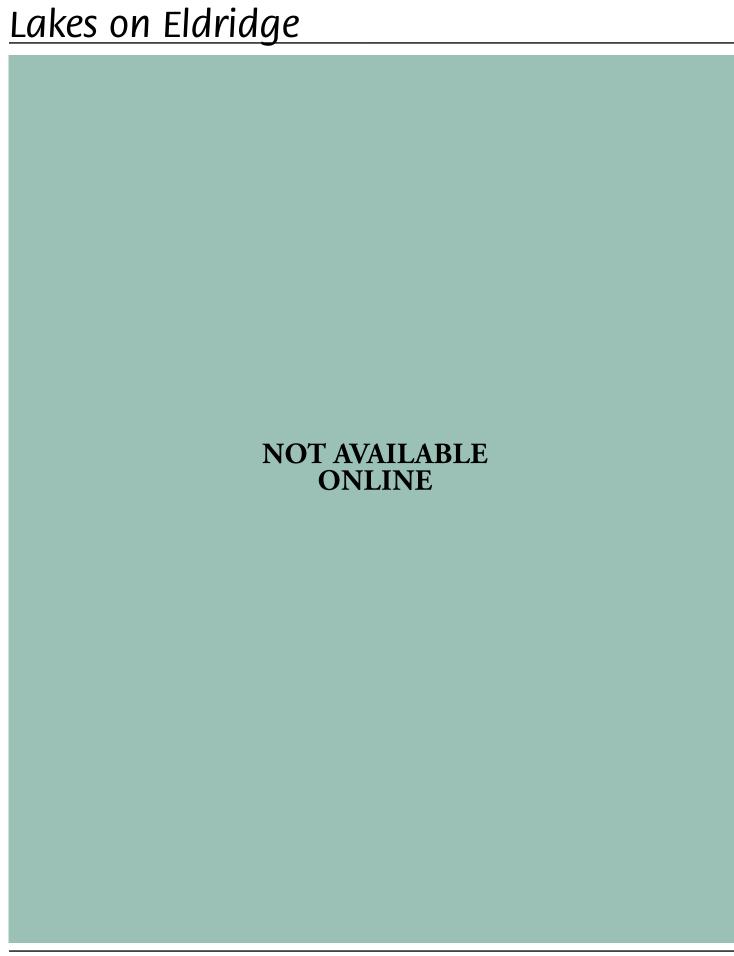
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ACROSS

- 1. Southwest by south
- 5. Prophet who built the arc
- 9. In of
- 10. Short poem
- 11. Iraq's neighbor
- 12. More able
- 13. System
- 15. Conger
- 16. Avows
- 18. Angora (2 wds.)
- 21. Finale
- 22. Growls
- 26. Do penitence
- 28. Has 4 identical siblings
- 29. Automaton
- 30. Ancient Indian
- 31. Espy
- 32. Tier

DOWN

- 1. Skinny
- 2. Flexible metal thread
- 3. Lick
- 4. Sunbonnet
- 5. Catch
- 6. Cargo ship
- 7. BB Player Abdul Jabar
- 8. Throws violently
- 10. Played (2 wds.)
- 14. Counterbalance
- 17. Iranian's neighbors
- 18. What you shift
- 19. Upon (2 wds.)
- 20. Philippine dish with marinated chicken or pork
- 23. Peewee
- 24. Aphids
- 25. Fasten
- 27. Negative

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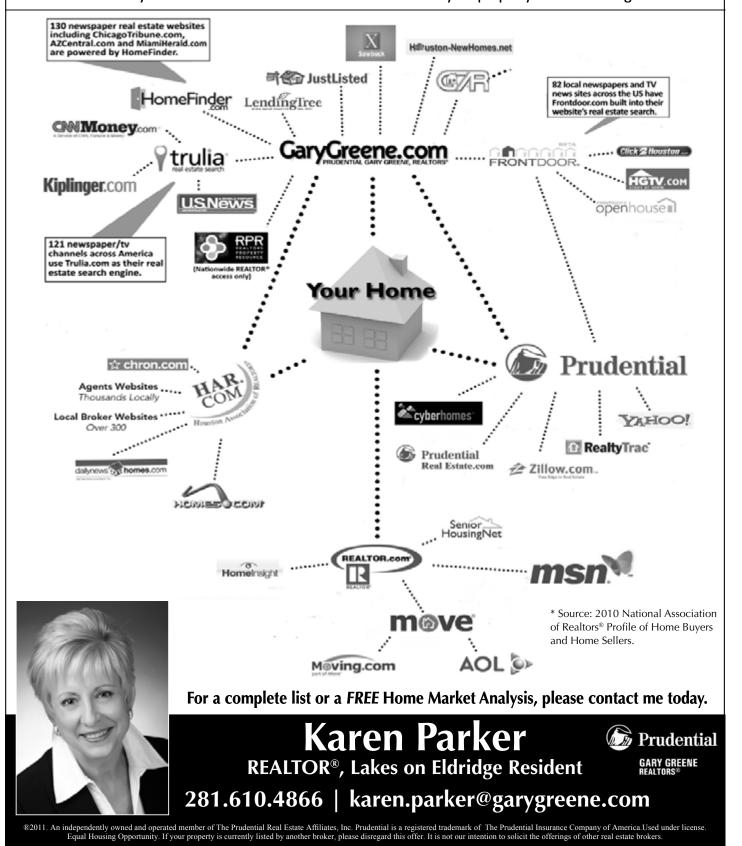
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