



LAKE S

ON ELDRIDGE

Volume 11, Issue 12
December 2012

Official Newsletter
www.lakesoneldridge.net

2012 LOE's Santa's Toy Drive & Party

Children's Christmas Party and Toy Drive will be held on Friday, December 14, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at the clubhouse.

Santa has made his list and checked it twice and knows that the LOE children have all been nice!!! So bring your little ones over to take a picture with Santa and take a hayride around the neighborhood to see the Christmas lights. There will be hot chocolate, apple cider and Christmas cookies to share as well as other Holiday activities.

This party allows our residents to spread a little Holiday cheer and to donate toys to the less fortunate. So don't forget to bring a new, unwrapped toy to be donated to Toys for Tots while you get your picture taken with Santa for free. You may also make a cash donation to this very worthy cause.

We can always use volunteers to help with the pictures, coordinating, serving as well as cleanup. This would be a great opportunity for that high school student looking to do some volunteer work to put on their resume. If you would like to help with this event or want more details, please contact Georgia Shotwell Lester at (281)460-8505 or gshotwell@sbcglobal.net



LOE Christmas Decorating Contest

Do you and the kids like to drive around looking at Christmas Lights during the Holiday Season? For most of us the answer is a resounding YES! What a great way to get everyone in the Holiday Spirit. You could even walk and get yourself a little exercise too! We are looking for volunteers to help with the judging of the LOE decorating contest! This could be a great opportunity for a Girl Scout troop, Boy Scout troop, or kids club to help volunteer in the neighborhood and get community service points.

LOE will have a Christmas Lighting and Decorating Contest December 11th and 12th, 2012. We hope to have lots of good neighborly competition to give you plenty of beautiful decorations to look at here in Lakes on Eldridge.

We will present an award for best decorations in each Village on December 11th and on December 12th there will be "OVERALL BEST" awards presented. The awards for the decorated homes and yards will be judged on their design, layout and overall flow of the decorations. In the past years, LOE residents have done a tremendous job with Christmas Decorations and we look forward to seeing the whole neighborhood sparkle in Holiday Cheer!

Let's all get out and "Light up our Neighborhood! Winners will have a Sign placed in their yard showing Best Christmas Decorations 2012. The signs can be displayed until the end of January 2013.

Please note that Holiday lights and decorations must not be turned on before Thanksgiving and must be taken down no later than fifteen (15) days after Christmas.

We look forward to seeing your Holiday Spirit and want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Blessed and Happy Holiday Season!



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
Newsletter Publisher	
Peel, Inc.	advertising@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:

Carlton Thorpe.....	President
Gary Fehsenfeld.....	Vice President
Kim Treas.....	Secretary
David King.....	Treasurer
David Westphal.....	Director

Visit the Association Website: www.lakesoneldridge.net

Lakes On Eldridge Annual Meeting

On November 7th, the Annual Meeting of the Lakes on Eldridge Homeowner Association was held at Kirk Elementary. Carlton Thorpe, President of the HOA, opened the meeting with a discussion of the 2012 achievements. Below is the list of discussed accomplishments.

- Re-plastered Pool and installed new coping
- Hired irrigation consultant and made extensive modifications to the irrigation system including the installation of 8200 feet of drip line
- Installed new technology (cycle stops) on our main irrigation pumps to improve reliability
- Installed 247 new holly bushes along perimeter walls
- Purchased new furniture for the pool area
- Extensively modified restroom plumbing at the pool and redecorated the restroom areas
- Trimmed all trees along major boulevards and entrances
- Modified gate controllers for higher reliability and durability
- Repaired street and curb damages
- Implemented all new state regulations for homeowner associations implemented by last legislative session including open board meetings
- Adopted new rules for the staining of fencing and installation of wrought iron fences
- Implemented new procedures for use of common area amenities including the pool and tennis courts
- Improved communication with residents. Held 1st ever Town Hall. Expanded use of Email Blasts for communication to residents

Also discussed was the effect of this work on home values. LOE has seen a significant increase in demand and resale values in the last year. In 2011 Days on Market were 61; in 2012 DOM are 49 – almost a 20% reduction. Average home prices have increased over 8% since 2011 to an average of \$116.17/sq. foot. There is also a high rental demand in the community; currently approximately 58 homes are rented. Rental values are up over 9% since 2011 to an average of \$1.19/sq. foot/month.

Carlton Thorpe also recognized the numerous volunteers who serve on a committee or chair an activity within the community.

- Access Control Committee– Bob Wegner, Carl Chapman, and Eric Zimmerman
- Gate Repair Committee– Bronson Clay and David King
- Lakes and Wildlife Committee– Betty Burkett, Maggie Wegner, Sam & Sarla Rampuria, Lee Mueller
- MUD 341 Board of Directors – David King and Bronson Clay
- Newsletter – Sandro Tombesi
- Social Events Committee – Georgia Shotwell, Rosa Clay, Clive Gardner, Deborah Dunaway, Carrie Loid, Melissa Hunzeker, Adrienne Lyons, Carol Peters, Lee Mueller, Karen Parker, Diane Kingery, Phyllis and Bob Baker, Gus Lester

(Continued on Page 4)



Trimming to Take-Downs
Trimming • Removal of Debris
Hedge Trimming • Stump Grinding
Professional Tree Health Care

Bonded & Insured Since 1987
Call David
Ph: 281-469-0458
Cell: 281-703-5729

Mention this ad for a Spring Special! Senior Citizens Receive an Additional Discount.





jonesroadtreeservice.com



WHEREVER LIFE MOVES YOU
CALL ON US



Get the free mobile app at
<http://gettag.mobi>



Get the free mobile app at
<http://gettag.mobi>

Kay Horsch
Royal Oaks Office
Direct: 281.679.0101
Cell: 713.703.8313
kay@kayhorsch.com
har.com/KayHorsch
11689 Westheimer, Ste. C
Houston, Texas 77077

Ann P. Knoche
Memorial Office
Direct: 281.582.3911
Cell: 281.844.1111
annpk@heritagetexas.com
har.com/AnnKnoche
14340 Memorial Drive
Houston, Texas 77079

THANKS TO OUR AFFILIATION with Leading Real Estate
Companies of the World® and Luxury Portfolio International™ we can take
you around the globe.

heritagetexas.com

VIEW OVER 50,000 LISTINGS IN THE HOUSTON REGION



LUXURY
PORTFOLIO
INTERNATIONAL

Lakes on Eldridge

(Continued from Page 2)

- Tennis Committee– Jennifer Poole, Tom Lee, Dennis Disbot, Marian Gleize
- Bible Study – Stephanie Leggett
- Book Club – Celeste Fritz
- Recycling Day- Bronson and Rosa Clay
- Stitch & Chat / Bunco – Catherine Spellings
- Swim Team – Kent Vinall and Steve Pittenger
- Yard of the Month - Maggie Wegner and Stephanie Leggett
- Yoga – Jennifer Adams

Bob Wegner gave an access control report. He and his committee analyzed crime statistics for the previous 5 years, investigated other HOA systems and presented the following summary conclusions:

- We are safer than surrounding, un-gated neighborhoods
- An apparent crime trend downturn occurred in 2010, possibly associated with new Guard Patrol implementation
- Juveniles are perhaps a major contributor to crime since crime spikes during summer months and December
- Tailgating is not a likely crime diagnostic
- We should distinguish between crime types when discussing enhancements:
- Gates and guards address crime by outsiders
- Guard patrols address crimes of opportunity and juveniles

The residents were reminded that they can plan a big role in crime prevention by displaying an LOE window sticker and by locking their home and car. A neighborhood watch program was also discussed and any resident desiring to participate should contact AMI. Bob, Carl and Eric were recognized for their outstanding work in developing this information.

The financial status of the Association was also reviewed. The association is over \$8,000 under budget as of September 2012 and has collected over 98% of outstanding assessments. The 2013 Assessment will increase by \$100 to \$1460. That is the first increase in 3 years and is necessary for the following reasons:

- Fund the Reserve \$130,000 in 2013 to bring it to mid-range of the Reserve Study recommendations. Over \$150,000 was spent in 2012 in capital improvements.
- Add additional patrols in the summer months and December to address higher incidents of crime and vandalism.
- Address Inflationary pressures in major contracts such as landscaping.
- Pay for the 14% increase in pumpage fees associated with water.

An election was held to fill the open position on the Board. Douglas Ray was elected by a majority. The Board recognized and thanked David King for his service to the Board the last 5 years.

Overall the residents indicated they thought it was an interesting and informative meeting. The full presentation is available on the Lakes on Eldridge website www.lakesoneldridge.net.

December Yard Of The Month

CALLOWAY / CORNELIUS GOOD NEIGHBOR PROGRAM

The exteriors of the homes and the landscape of the yards is the first impression people have of our neighborhood. This is known as “curb appeal” to the real estate industry, and it plays an important role in keeping our neighborhood desirable. Lakes on Eldridge has maintained good market value even in the economic struggles of the last few years partly because it is well cared for and inviting. There are so many beautiful yards to choose from that we try to recognize as many as we can without rewarding the same yards again and again. We also try to keep track of the new homeowners so that they can be rewarded even if their yard has won before under a previous owner. Our thanks to all our neighbors for making our job difficult. Keep up the good work! We thank Calloway/ Cornelius for their contribution of rewards for our Yard of the Month contests. These are the last Yard of the Month awards for 2012. We will begin the 2013 year in April.

The following is a list and photos of our two winners and names of our two honorable mentions for November:



Winner: Clive & Nancy Gardner, 5434 Lake Shore Place

(Continued from Page 6)



Come grow with us!
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School

Open House
Wednesday, January 30th
9am - 2pm and 6 - 8pm

"Living, loving, and learning in Christ and the Church."
6646 Addicks Satsuma Rd.
Houston, TX 77084
281-463-1444
www.seascs.org

EXCELLENT CURRICULUM • ATHLETICS
COMPUTER & SCIENCE LABS
BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS





Seasonal Greetings!



Wishing you and your family
Peace, Joy & Happiness
this holiday season and throughout the coming year.



Clive & Nancy Gardner

Celebrating 11 years as your Neighborhood Realtors®

Clive: 281.460.3168 | Nancy: 713.870.3169
ngardner@garygreene.com | CliveAndNancy.com



©2012 Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate LLC. Better Homes and Gardens is a registered trademark of Meredith Corporation licensed to Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate LLC. Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Franchise is Independently Owned and Operated. If your property is currently listed with a real estate broker, please disregard. It is not our intention to solicit the offerings of other real estate brokers.

Lakes on Eldridge

December Yard Of The Month



Winner: Glenn & Suzette Dysarz, 12307 Sea Grove

HONORABLE MENTION:

Donny & Stacey Pipes, 12418 Lake Shore Ridge

HONORABLE MENTION:

Bill & Susan Rainbolt, 5519 Sterling Brook

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

SUDOKU

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

View answers online at www.peelinc.com

© 2006, Feature Exchange

The goal is to fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Each digit may appear only once in each row, each column, and each 3x3 box.

YardMasters, Inc.

A Professional Landscaping, Sprinkler System & Lawn Service Company



- ✦ Landscaping
- ✦ Lawn Service
- ✦ Bed Cleaning
- ✦ Hedge Trimming
- ✦ Mulch
- ✦ Bed Renovation
- ✦ Landscape Lighting
- ✦ Flagstone Walkways
- ✦ Drainage Installation
- ✦ French Drains

SPECIAL SAVINGS

10% OFF

PREMIUM BLACK MULCH
(Or Natural Hardwood Available)

OFFER ENDS 12/31/2012

YardMastersInc.com
281.469.5158

15420 Telge Rd.
Cypress, Texas 77429



Sprinkler System Installation & Repair Licensed Irrigator #5455

The Branch School

PRESCHOOL - 8TH GRADE



SACS Accredited

MAKE THE CHOICE.

DISCOVER THE DIFFERENCE.

SEE HOW STUDENTS LEARN.



- Small class size and nurturing environment
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)
- Preparing students for 21st century challenges
- Advanced educational technology
- Project-based, integrated learning
- Critical-thinking, peacemaking and problem- solving skills
- Outdoor Classroom program (nature studies)
- Community Service

Open House!
Jan. 12th
2 pm - 4 pm

Located in West Houston - close to Energy Corridor

713-465-0288 ■ www.thebranchschool.org



Karen Parker

REALTOR®

*Certified Home Marketing Specialist
Lakes on Eldridge Resident*

Direct: 281.610.4866

Office: 713.461.6800

Email: karen.parker@garygreene.com

Karen, Your Neighborhood Home Marketing Specialist!

Karen Will ...

- ✂ Provide a comprehensive market analysis
- ✂ Integrate staging and pricing concepts
- ✂ Provide a personalized marketing plan
- ✂ Use professional photography
- ✂ Employ the latest marketing technology
- ✂ Communicate clearly and regularly
- ✂ Put client's needs first
- ✂ Adhere to professional standards
- ✂ Coordinate all closing procedures

**Better
Homes**
and Gardens.
REAL ESTATE

**GARY
GREENE**

Buying or selling, I understand . . . RESULTS MATTER.
Please contact me for exceptional service and results!

©2012 Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate LLC. A Realogy Company. All Rights Reserved. Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate LLC fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated. Better Homes and Gardens, the Better Homes and Garden Real Estate logo are registered service marks owned by Meredith Corporation and licensed to Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate LLC.

Timely Tips for December Gardeners

Home for the holidays... Get inspiration to transform your surroundings with a visit to Cornelius Nursery!

Cornelius Nursery will soon become a winter wonderland that will have you singing "There's no place like home for the holidays"! Get inspired by our selection of unique and festive décor that is sure to delight. Our "elves" have been hard at work creating the following holiday themes:

- Dear Santa celebrates yesteryear, with traditional colors and a vintage feel.
- Western Slope pays homage to the rugged beauty of the West, and features décor with brown, ivory and soft turquoise tones.
- Peppermint with a Twist will dazzle guest with red, white and lime-green accents.
- Party at the North Pole is all about fun and whimsy, with festive décor and eye-popping colors.
- It's Christmas Time says "tick-tock"! We're counting down the hours until Christmas morning with this lighthearted clock theme.
- A Star in the East offers up elegant jewel tones and a joyful Nativity theme befitting the season.
- Heaven and Nature Sing commemorates nature's tranquil winter slumber—with garden statuary, beautiful birds and décor in soft green, brown and ivory.

Go to www.calloways.com for more information.



We solve all the pieces to the puzzle.

Call Today to Get Started On All Your Printing Needs.

1-888-687-6444
Ext. 23



PEEL, INC.
printing & publishing
EXPERIENCE MATTERS doing business for 30+ years.



RE/MAX

Professional Group

832-478-1205

Lakes on Eldridge

DAVID FLORY TEAM

**WE
WISH YOU
A
HAPPY
HOLIDAY
SEASON!**



Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

- **#1 Realtor in Lakes on Eldridge***
- **#2 Realtor in Houston & Texas****
- **#7 Realtor in United States****
- **Selling Over 500 Homes A Year**

281-477-0345

WWW.SUPERDAVE.COM

**Realtor Teams per Remax 9/2008, 3/2009

Lakes on Eldridge

Adoptable Dog of the Month

Who knows where the little pup began her life, but before she knew it, she ended up as a 12 week old stray at BARC, the Houston city shelter! Mild skin issues kept her from adoptions.

Georgi, a lab mix, has been in a foster home ever since, with several dog and cat buddies. At approx. 6-7 months old, she is still a puppy with plenty of energy. She is a very accepting dog and loves everyone and everything. She dearly loves to play with other dogs, chasing each other and wrestling to their heart's content, rope toys are plenty of fun too! She is easy-going in her attitude.

Georgi is house-trained / crate-trained. She is spayed, micro-chipped, vaccinated, heartworm negative and ready to start her adventure with you! She knows "Sit" and is learning "Stay", although that's a little hard for an enthusiastic pup. She is currently between 30-35 lbs., but tall and will probably not get any bigger than 45 or so lbs., if that much—hard to know. With her breezy outlook on life, an active family and doggie friend(s) would be ideal for her! If you are interested in meeting Georgi Girl, please contact Cindi Hohle at cindi.hohle@c-a-m.com or Anke Arnold at 713-856-6795.



**We'll do the work,
You have the Fun!**

**the
Pool Nanny**

Weekly and Vacation Swimming Pool Maintenance

281-858-4868



2012 & 2013 Holiday Schedule

There will be no refuse pickup service on these holidays:

Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, November 22, 2012

Christmas Day – Tuesday, December 25, 2012

New Years Day – Tuesday January 2013

Memorial Day, Monday May 27, 2013

Independence Day - Thursday, July 4, 2013

Labor Day – Monday, September 2, 2013

Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, November 28, 2013

Christmas Day – Wednesday, December 25, 2013

New Years Day – Wednesday January 2014

Service will resume on the next regularly scheduled collection day. Have a Safe and GREEN Holiday!



Residential Collection

TIME FOR A MARKET UPDATE!

Searching 5 months
prior to 10/08/2012

	LOE		LOEN	
	# Sold	\$/ft.	# Sold	\$/ft.
3 Bedrooms	5	\$114.04	2	\$135.68
4 Bedrooms	16	\$118.17	33	\$124.84
5+ Bedrooms	2	\$130.51	12	\$135.73
1 Story	5	\$114.45	9	\$128.41
2 Story	18	\$119.42	38	\$128.00
Without Pool	12	\$109.90	28	\$118.60
With Pool	11	\$127.54	19	\$142.05
Built 1990-1999	20	\$116.96	0	\$0.00
Built After 2000	3	\$127.57	47	\$128.08
Never Lived In	0	-	0	-
1500-2000 sq. ft.	0	-	0	-
2000-2500 sq. ft.	2	\$111.50	0	\$0.00
2500-3000 sq. ft.	6	\$116.93	5	\$135.67
3000-3500 sq. ft.	8	\$112.05	17	\$118.43
3500-4000 sq. ft.	1	\$99.61	8	\$125.08
4000-4500 sq. ft.	5	\$132.69	7	\$123.86
4500+ sq. ft.	1	\$137.81	10	\$146.05
Waterfont	1	\$137.81	5	\$145.25
Waterview	3	\$121.70	5	\$144.86
Cul-de-sac	8	\$117.66	11	\$118.66
Other	11	\$116.15	26	\$125.54

All information obtained from HAR mls data.

FACT: In the last 5 months we had the best resale market ever recorded in LOE and LOEN!

Buyers Looking...Listings Needed!



DANIELLE GEBARA

Resident of Lakes on Eldridge North

832-788-6002

danielle@dgebbara.com

Proud to be involved!



LAKEs ON ELDRIDGE OKTOBERFEST A GREAT SUCCESS!

On November 2 the Lakes on Eldridge Social Committee hosted the 5th annual Oktoberfest. About 75 residents came out to sample beers from Houston's local brewery, Saint Arnold. The event was a huge success as it is every year! Quoting one resident, "Good job on the great Oktoberfest! It was a lot of fun." Another of our neighbors said, "It was a great night to get a sitter and enjoy time with other neighbors. We had a great time." Each resident attending got to take home a souvenir tasting glass. It was fun for everyone to sample beers they

might not ordinarily try and sample a little German food. People were even a little surprised about how much they liked different styles of beer!

Thanks to everyone who attended. A special thanks to Cecilia Freeman, Anke Arnold, Carol Peters, Connie Carruthers, Marcia Hunzeker, and Karen Parker provided lots of help setting up, cleaning up, and serving! We couldn't have done it without Carrie Loid, Jacki Jurach and Rob Ramirez either. We hope everyone can join us for this event next year!



Calling All Captains!!

As we begin a New Year in Lakes on Eldridge, there are a number of activities that have been planned for your enjoyment and also for your safety. To make our community as good as it can be, the committees need a "Block Captain" or "Chief" for each of our fifteen "villages"

AUBURN SHORES	EAGLE BEND
BAY MEADOWS	EAGLE COVE
BRISTOL BANKS	EDEN SPRINGS
BRISTOL WATERS	INDIGO FALLS
CRESCENT BANKS	LAKE SHORE ESTATES
CRESCENT BAY	PEBBLE WAY
CRESCENT COVE	PELICAN POINTE
CRYSTAL FALLS	

Captains will act as contact for neighborhood watch activity, National Night Out coordination and other social activities.

If interested, please contact AMI at 713-932-1122 and provide your name, phone number and Village. Your willingness to help will be acknowledged and appreciated!

THE LAKES ON ELDRIDGE SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP!

We are looking for volunteers to help with the Community events. The Holiday Season is upon us and we are looking for volunteers to help with the Community Christmas Party/Toy Drive and Christmas Decorating Contest. The Community events in the past have had a great turnout and were a lot of fun for the children as well as the adults. These events cannot be held or cannot be a success without Volunteers from the community. If YOU would like to help with one of the upcoming events or want more details, please contact Georgia Shotwell at (281)460-8505 or at gshotwell@sbcglobal.net



Bashans Painting & Home Repair

**Commercial/Residential
Free Estimates**

281-347-6702



281-731-3383 cell



- Interior & Exterior Painting
- Garage Floor Epoxy
- Hardi Plank Installation
- Custom Staining
- Wood Replacement
- Roofing
- Sheetrock Repair
- Gutter Repair/Replacement
- Interior Carpentry
- Faux Painting
- Cabinet Painting
- Door Refinishing
- Wallpaper Removal and Texturizing
- Window Installation
- Pressure Washing
- Trash Removal
- Fence Repair/Replacement
- Ceiling Fan/Light Fixtures

References Available • Fully Insured
NO PAYMENT UNTIL COMPLETION
bashanspainting@earthlink.net



14120 Memorial Drive
Houston, Texas 77079
Phone: 281.531.6088
www.yorkshireacademy.com



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



In the hallways and classrooms of Yorkshire Academy, these words are brought to brilliant life through the actions and achievements of our staff, students and parents. As a result, the students of Yorkshire are filled with a passion for learning and a spirit that embraces the world around them. We invite you to share in their ongoing story by visiting Yorkshire yourself.

18 months – 5th grade | Full-time care available

Think twice before you buy that puppy for Christmas...

First of all, are you really sure you want that puppy, or are you just giving into your child's pleas? Keep in mind that kids will always promise to take care of the dog, but very few keep that promise. That means that you will most likely end up as the main caregiver for the dog. If you are not prepared for that, you should probably consider a pet that will be easier to care for, for example a hamster.

Never give a dog as a gift to someone unless you are absolutely certain that person wants it and knows what is involved in having a dog!

If you are absolutely certain you want a dog, and feel that Christmas is a great time to bring the dog into the family, there are some things you should do first. If you have little or no experience with dogs, do lots of research, to make sure you know what you're getting into. Decide where you want to get the puppy. Avoid pet stores; good places are shelters and breeders. Or maybe you know someone whose dog has had a litter and they are looking for homes (though don't get purebreds this way). Know what you are looking for in a dog before you choose. With mixed breeds, it can be difficult to tell how big they will grow up to be, especially if the breed of the father is unknown. The feet are a good indicator of how big the puppy will get: big feet equals big dog.

Before you adopt, have you considered what you will feed the dog? Can you afford to feed the puppy a good quality food? If not, forget it. If you can't afford to feed the dog properly, how will you pay the vet bills? You don't have to buy the dog food from your veterinarian to provide a proper diet. Just research what should be in a dog food, and remember that a higher price does not always indicate a higher quality. Look at the ingredients: you want to see a named meat source (i.e., "chicken meal" rather than "animal meal") as the first ingredient. You will also feed less of the high quality food since there is less filler, so the price evens out quite nicely in the end. There is also less clean up this way!

Research what you should expect to pay in vet bills over the first year. It might scare you. Puppies need at least two rounds of shots, and your pet will have to be spayed or neutered. The prices for these procedures can vary greatly among veterinarians, so research different ones first. It's a good idea to have a vet in mind before you get the puppy. After the first year, vet bills aren't so scary, at about \$50/year for shots (which also can vary a lot). Consider though that it is

possible that your dog could have a health problem that requires a lot of medical attention (more likely when you get your puppy from questionable sources). Are you prepared to pay for this?

What will you do when the puppy pees on the floor? When he chews your best shoes? When he keeps biting your fingers? How will you prevent him from developing behavior problems? Do you know what it means to socialize the dog, and are you prepared to do it? Again, do research: start with a good book, such as "Good Owners, Great Dogs".

So, you've done all your research, and you're ready for a puppy and prepared for a long commitment. And you want to get someone you love a puppy for Christmas. That might sound like a great idea,

but it's not, and here's why: think about how hectic you are during Christmas. Are you sure that's the best time to introduce a puppy that will need a lot of attention, and most likely will not yet be housebroken? Incidentally, this is why many shelters will not adopt out pets right before Christmas. If you absolutely must give a dog as a Christmas gift, try this instead. After you have made the arrangements to adopt the puppy, buy the crate, the dishes, the collar, and anything else your puppy will need and wrap it up and put it under the Christmas tree. When your kid(s) open it up and wonder where the puppy is, explain to them that right now is not the best time for the puppy to come into the house, but once things settle down a bit they can go with you to pick the puppy up. What a great

lesson in responsibility for your kids! Don't worry about the puppy not being held for you: anyone who is responsible will be delighted that you are holding off until you are ready. Shelters and breeders may even insist on it. If the person you are getting the puppy from insists that you take him right away, reconsider adopting from that person.

A dog is a lifetime commitment, and you owe it to your pet to be prepared for whatever problems may come up. If you raise your puppy properly, he will bring you years of enjoyment, and may even be the best gift you ever give someone. If you don't, it can be a huge mistake, you may have to give the dog away or have the dog put down: is that really a lesson you want to teach your kids?

For more information on how to care for your pet, visit this great site: www.peteducation.com

Make a family decision to open your hearts and home to a Homeless Animal. Visit your Local Shelter or Rescue....Come home to a loyal friend.



Cypress-Tomball Democrats Jan. Meeting

The Cypress-Tomball Democrats will hold their next monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 15th 2013 at Rudy's Grill & Cantina, 11760 Grant Rd., Cypress, TX 77429. All are welcome to join this growing club, which meets on the third Wednesday of every month. For more information, contact Olga Moya at cytomdems@yahoo.com.



CYPRESS, TX

It is the purpose of the Cypress Tea Party to work for the return of the United States of America to the conservative constitutional principles on which the Republic was founded, those principles being freedom and liberty for the citizens, smaller government, limited government interference in the lives of citizens, and less government spending.

We meet every three weeks from Noon to 2:00 PM on Saturday at Spring Creek BBQ, 25831 Northwest Freeway, Cypress, TX 77429.

Upcoming meeting dates are December 1st. For information contact David M. Wilson, Director, Cypress Texas Tea Party, @ cypresstexasteaparty@gmail.com.



Your newsletter is provided 100% Free of charge to your HOA ...

and is made possible by the advertisers within.

Please frequent their businesses and let them know where you saw their advertisement.

While there, be sure to say "Thanks!"

www.peelinc.com



PEEL, INC.
community newsletters



Brilliant Energy = Seriously LOW Electricity Rates

Brilliant Energy's Electricity Rates Challenge The Rates of Every Other Electricity Provider in Texas!

Lock-in a low electricity rate for up to 3-years!

**Easy Online Sign-Up at BrilliantElectricity.com
USE "NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER" AS REFERRAL**



Brilliant Energy is recommended by Texas Energy Analyst, Alan Lamme the host of the 'Energy Week' radio show on NewsTalk 1070 KNTH!

**Ask the "Energy Analyst":
281-658-0395**

Great Business Rates Too!

Brilliant Energy Texas PUC #10140



Lakes on Eldridge

Cypress Christian Previews

Sixth Grade: On Monday, January 14 at 7:00 pm, future sixth graders and their parents are invited to explore sixth grade with the help of the Middle School Principal, Dean of Students, and current CCS parents. Classroom tours will be available. The event will begin in the Elementary Building.

Kindergarten: On Thursday, January 24 at 7:00 pm, prospective kindergarten parents will be given important information and hear testimonies from teachers, administrators, students, and parents. The preview will be held in the Elementary Building and include a tour of kindergarten classrooms.

K-12: On Thursday, February 7, prospective families will be given the opportunity to visit our campus and gather information. The open house will begin in the Multi-Use Facility (Gym) and include a general assembly and private tour of the campus.

For more information: www.CypressChristian.org or 281.469.7745.

**Contact Sam at
713.408.0828**

**Get Your Pool
Serviced by a Pool
Professional & Resident of
LAKES ON ELDRIDGE!**

713.408.0828
info@poolcleanup.com
www.poolcleanup.com

**Installations
Weekly Service
Bi-Monthly Service**

**Chemical Only
Repairs
Plumbing Leaks**

Book Club

The year has flown by, and we are down to just one book club meeting left in 2012. Because of the holidays, we have combined our November and December meetings into one get-together on December 3rd. This will be our Christmas party and we will again be exchanging books from our shelves (no need to buy new) as gifts. Contact Celeste Fritz at celeste.fritz@gmail.com to find the location of each meeting.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

December 3 - The Silent Girl by Tess Gerritson. This is one of the more recent Rizzoli & Isles mysteries by author Tess Gerritson. In the murky shadows of Boston's Chinatown lies a severed hand. On the tenement rooftop above is the corpse belonging to that hand, a red-haired woman dressed in black, her head nearly decapitated. Two strands of silver hair—not human—cling to her body. They are homicide cop Jane Rizzoli's only clues, but they're enough for her and medical examiner Maura Isles to make the startling discovery: that this violent death had a chilling prequel. Nineteen years earlier, a horrifying murder-suicide in a Chinatown restaurant left five people dead. One woman connected to that massacre is still alive—a mysterious martial arts master who is now the target of someone, or something, deeply and relentlessly evil. Cracking a crime with bone-chilling echoes of an ancient Chinese legend, Rizzoli and Isles must outwit an unseen enemy with centuries of cunning—and a swift, avenging blade.



SHALOM

Hi Jewish Community!
Let's get connected!

- Shabbat dinners
- Chanukah parties
- Passover Seders
- or simply get together!

INTERESTED?

E-mail us at
info@shalomcypress.org.
Or visit our website at
www.shalomcypress.org



YOGA

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).

Meetings take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 pm in the Lakes on Eldridge Club House. Contact Jennifer Adams, adamsjjenn@gmail.com and 832-628-5425 for more information.



Lakes on Eldridge

At no time will any source be allowed to use the Lakes on Eldridge Newsletter contents, or loan said contents, to others in anyway, shape or form, nor in any media, website, print, film, e-mail, electrostatic copy, fax, or etc. for the purpose of solicitation, commercial use, or any use for profit, political campaigns, or other self amplification, under penalty of law without written or expressed permission from Peel, Inc. The information in the newsletter is exclusively for the private use of Lakes on Eldridge residents only.

DISCLAIMER: Articles and ads in this newsletter express the opinions of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Peel, Inc. or its employees. Peel, Inc. is not responsible for the accuracy of any facts stated in articles submitted by others. The publisher also assumes no responsibility for the advertising content with this publication. All warranties and representations made in the advertising content are solely that of the advertiser and any such claims regarding its content should be taken up with the advertiser.

* The publisher assumes no liability with regard to its advertisers for misprints or failure to place advertising in this publication except for the actual cost of such advertising.

* Although every effort is taken to avoid mistakes and/or misprints, the publisher assumes no responsibility for any errors of information or typographical mistakes, except as limited to the cost of advertising as stated above or in the case of misinformation, a printed retraction/correction.

* Under no circumstances shall the publisher be held liable for incidental or consequential damages, inconvenience, loss of business or services, or any other liabilities from failure to publish, or from failure to publish in a timely manner, except as limited to liabilities stated above.

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.



Lakes of Eldridge *Online*

Join Us For A Chat!

Your LOE Neighbors are gathering on the Internet!

- Meet neighbors by using neighborhood-wide discussion forums
- Organize and learn about events in your neighborhood
- Share recommended businesses and services
- Post Lost and Found notices
- Post photos, links and files

Go to www.i-neighbors.org/77041/LOE to join the LOE i-neighbors Message Board. Be sure to include a message identifying yourself as a Resident of LOE in your request to join.



**NOT AVAILABLE
ONLINE**



PEEL, INC.

308 Meadowlark St.
Lakeway, TX 78734-4717

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PEEL, INC.

LE

YOUR LAKES ON ELDRIDGE NEIGHBOR INVENTORY IS LOW!! NEED LISTINGS! CALL ME!



STEVE HARDCASTLE

#1 IN LOE & LOEN SALES!!



RE/MAX Westside Realtors 281-925-3047

- **RE/MAX Westside #1 TOP PRODUCER for over 20 years in a row!!**
- **Top 1% of all Realtors in North America**
- **Certified Residential Specialist
(Designation held by only 4% of all Realtors)**
- **RE/MAX Hall of Fame & Lifetime Achievement Award**
- **Broker License, BBA, Relocation Expert,
Over 30 Years of Real Estate Experience**
- **Long Time Lakes on Eldridge Resident**

www.stevehardcastle.com

email: hardcastleteam@gmail.com