



LAKES

ON ELDRIDGE
NORTH

Volume 12, Issue 1

January 2013

Travel the World Without Leaving Your Hometown

Host a Foreign Exchange Student

By Vicki Odom

Who hasn't dreamed about walking among the Egyptian pyramids, or soaking in the sun on a beach in Spain, or wandering along the Great Wall of China? Every parent wants to give their children a taste of the world, but the economic reality of international air travel for a family, not to mention hotels, passports and food, makes it tough for most of us to consider except in our daydreams.

There is a way to give your children the world - without leaving your living room. How? Host a foreign exchange student from a country you've always admired! Fascinated by France? Curious about China? Intrigued by India? By welcoming an international student from one of these countries into your home, you instantly open a portal to a far off land.

Foreign exchange students come from all over the world. Ayusa matches host families with students from more than 60 different countries including Argentina, China, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Germany, Japan, Lebanon, Norway, Pakistan, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia and Turkey. All high school foreign exchange students are fully insured, bring their own spending money, and are proficient in English - and all high school exchange programs are regulated by the U.S. Department of State.

"We welcome host families of all shapes and sizes - families with young children, families with no children, empty nesters whose children have left home, single parents and non-traditional families," says Heather Wells, Regional Director of Ayusa, a non-profit that promoting global learning and leadership through foreign exchange and study abroad opportunities for high school students. "The key requirements for a host family are to provide a safe and nurturing home environment, genuinely love children, and have a desire to learn more about a different culture."

Volunteer host families provide foreign exchange students a nurturing environment, three meals a day and a bedroom (either private or shared with a host sibling of the same gender). Each host family and student is supported by a professionally trained community representative who works with the family and student for the entire program. All interested

host families must pass a criminal background check and a home visit by an exchange organization.

Interested host families are required to fill out an application, pass a background check and interview with a local exchange program representative in their homes. Once accepted to a program, host families can view profiles of students to find the right match for their family.

"Hosting an exchange student is a life-changing experience - for the student, the host family, and the host community," says Wells. "There is no better way to teach your children about the world around them than through welcoming an international high school student into your home."

Ayusa is currently accepting applications for families to host an exchange student for the 2013 - 2014 school year. For more information about hosting a high school foreign exchange student, please contact Ayusa at 1.888.552.9872 or by visiting the website at www.ayusa.org.



Lakes on Eldridge North

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Please e-mail articles and/or photos to loen@peelinc.com.

Submissions must be received by the
10th of the month for the following month's issue.
(Advertising deadline is the 8th of the month.)

Cypress-Tomball Democrats

Host January Monthly Meeting

The next Cypress-Tomball Democrats monthly meeting will be on Tuesday, January 15th, 2013. It will be held at Rudy's Grill & Cantina, 11760 Grant Rd., Cypress, TX 77429, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.

January's guest speaker will be Dr. Mark Jones, Chair of the Department of Political Science at Rice University. Dr. Jones will discuss the 2012 election, the 2013 legislative session and the future of party politics in Texas.

All are welcome to attend and to join this growing club, which meets on the third Tuesday of every month. For more information, contact Olga Moya at cytomdems@yahoo.com.



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View answers online at www.peelinc.com

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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.



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Lakes on Eldridge North

PERFECT TIME FOR COOL SEASON HERBICIDE

It's finally time to use the cool season herbicides I've referred to on the GardenLine radio program. If you know what I'm talking about but just need the names of the products, they are Fertilome's Weed Free Zone and Bonide's Weed Beater Ultra. These herbicides are specific for broadleaf weeds like Clover and Virginia Buttonweed. They will not control any "grassy" weeds. The perfect temperature range for usage of these two cool-season herbicides is roughly between 75 degree highs and 40 degree lows.

But there are some caveats that must be respected for these herbicides to work properly. The one constant in weed control, whether it's a cool season herbicide or a regular post-emergent herbicide, is to use a surfactant. Surfactants help herbicides do their job because most water in our area is considered hard. Hard water tends to just roll off leaf surfaces. There are two ways of adding a surfactant to most herbicides. The simple way is add about a tablespoon per gallon of dish soap to the mix. The professional grade way is to use a relatively inexpensive commercial

surfactant like Hi-Yield's Spreader Sticker or Bonide's Turbo. The other important step would have to be "HOW" it is applied. You should use either a pump-up sprayer or a hand-held trigger sprayer. Avoid the use of Dial-N-Spray hose sprayer because you cannot be as precise with the spray, and over-use of such products on the entire yard can cause a yellowing of the grass. Spot treating is paramount with these controls. There are some concentrates available in a "Ready to Spray" formula that you hook on the end of the hose. If this is the only thing available, concentrate on that spot treatment. That means you've got to be quick on the switch with the ON and OFF lever.

Excerpts from this tip sheet are reprinted by permission from Randy Lemmon at www.randylemmon.com.

GardenLine with Randy Lemmon

Exclusively on NewsTalk 740 KTRH | Sat. & Sun. 6 - 10 a.m.

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Happy New Year!

Welcome to a Seller's Market!



2012 was the best year for real estate since 2007. Rising employment caused buyer demand to soar. Excess inventory was absorbed in the market and we experienced double-digit declines in inventory. Most areas in Houston are now considered to be a Seller's Market.

If you have considered moving, please contact us for an update on current market values.

2013 may be your year to make a move.

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Lakes on Eldridge North

Northwest Flyers Youth Track Club Registration on Feb 2nd

The Northwest Flyers Youth Track Club will celebrate its 26th Anniversary Season by hosting its annual free Registration/Information breakfast on Saturday, February 2nd, 2013, for all boys and girls who are interested in joining for the 2013 track season. The breakfast starts promptly at 8:30 AM at the Cypress Creek Christian Community Center Forum located at 6823 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, TX, 77379.

The free breakfast is the opportunity for youth athletes to register for the club's 2013 spring/summer track season, and to meet the Northwest Flyers coaches, staff, and other new and returning athletes. The event will be highlighted by a special presentation from a member of the USA Track & Field Olympic organization. All new parents and athletes interested in joining the Northwest Flyers must attend.

The Northwest Flyers Track Club is a youth (ages 6 -18) track club, affiliated with USA Track & Field (USATF), that provides a full program of sanctioned "track" events such as sprints, hurdles, middle

distance, distance and relays, and sanctioned "field" events such as long jump, triple jump, high jump, pole vault, shot put, discus and javelin. The Northwest Flyers has approximately 285 members. The club was founded 26 years ago by Olympic gold medalist Fred Newhouse to foster the development of youth track & field in the Northwest Houston area.

The Northwest Flyers is a member of the "Win with Integrity" program, a partnership between USATF and the American College of Sports Medicine. "Win with Integrity" brings elite track & field athletes and school-aged kids together to promote healthy lifestyles, keeping active, and living with integrity through the sport of track & field.

For additional information on the Northwest Flyers Track Club, please visit the team website at <http://www.northwestflyers.org> or contact Linette Roach at (281) 587-8442 or linette.roach@sbcglobal.net.



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!



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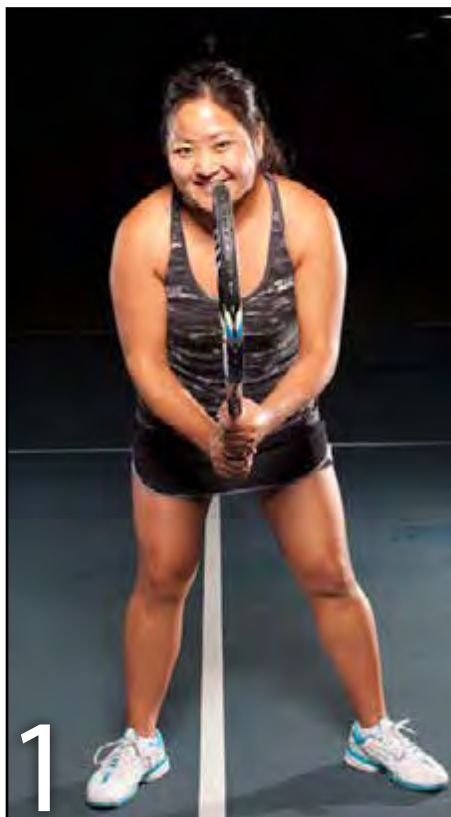
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Tennis Tips

By USPTA/PTR Master Professional
Fernando Velasco



THE TWO-HANDED BACKHAND VOLLEY

In previous newsletters, I offered tips on how to hit a forehand groundstroke, a two-handed backhand, one-handed backhand and a forehand volley. In this issue, I will give you instructions on how to execute a two-handed backhand volley for a right hander. This stroke is used whenever the player is forced to hit a ball in the air. In these pictures student Mindy Custer demonstrates the proper form and technique. Photos by Charlie Palafox.

Step 1: Ready Position: The body is facing the net. The right hand is holding the end of the racket in a forehand grip position and the left hand is next to the right hand. The left hand is holding the racket slightly tighter than the right hand. Feet are a shoulder width apart and the body is in equal balance. For beginners it is okay to use the forehand and backhand grips for the forehand and backhand volleys. As the player gets stronger and the balls come at a faster speed, it will be best to use the continental grip for both volleys.

Step 2: Back Swing: Since the volley is usually executed when a player is close to the net and there is very little time to react to the incoming ball, the back swing is very short. The left hand will make a slight change of the grip and the right hand will be relaxed and loose. The left shoulder should take a short turn and the head of the racket should align to the flight of the ball. The left wrist should be "cocked" back slightly and the head of the racket should be above the wrist. Eyes are still focused on the incoming ball. Here I am helping Mindy to feel the hand on the racket to tilt back and still keep the head of the racket above her wrist.

Step 3: Point of Contact: The right foot is now taking a step forward and the racket is making contact with the ball. It is important to keep the left shoulder closed and not rotate the right hip too early. Flexing the right knee will allow more flexibility to find the proper point of contact and give power to the ball.

Step 4: Follow Through: Once the racket has made contact with the ball, the follow through is very short to allow the player to immediately get back to the ready position. The right arm should be close to the body.

Look for in the next Newsletter: The Serve

CY-FAIR WOMEN'S CLUB

Women Serving the Community

We had a blast at our December Holiday Party and we marked the end of another successful year for our women's club. We look forward to 2013 with enthusiasm. Happy New Year Everyone!!

In January we will meet for our first annual business meeting followed by a fun game of Bunco. In February, organization is the word. We hope to receive guidance that we can use in all aspects of our lives.

CWC is a service organization that gives back to the community, so all funds raised will go right back to the community in scholarships for graduating high school seniors, at Lone Star College, Cy-Fair and grants to other non-profits in our community, as well.

Membership for the Cy-Fair Women's Club is open to all ladies in Northwest Houston/Cypress neighborhoods. Currently we meet the first Thursday of most months at West Houston Church of Christ. Our meetings begin with social time and refreshments at 7:00pm immediately followed by a program at 7:30p.m. The church is located at the corner of Queenston and West Road.

Our monthly meetings are not only educational and enjoyable, but they develop lasting fellowships. We look forward to meeting you! If you have any questions about our club or need directions to the church, please contact Cindy Pickens, Membership Chair at cyfairwomensclub@gmail.com.



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CY-FAIR KIWANIS CLUB

Kiwanis wants YOU! The Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club is actively seeking new members who are interested in giving service to improve our community and our world. Visit the Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club and learn about the projects in which its members participate to enrich and improve life for citizens in our community. We sponsor the Key Clubs in the Cy-Fair, Jersey Village, and Katy communities and work with them in service to the Cy-Fair area. Internationally, both Kiwanis and Key Club are participating in the ELIMINATE PROJECT aimed at the eradication of maternal/neonatal tetanus. Businesses of the community are encouraged to support a representative for membership in Kiwanis. If you work for a business that is oriented toward involvement in community improvement and leadership, suggest to them that you would like to represent that business through membership and involvement in work with Kiwanis. We welcome business and

organization representatives as well as individual memberships. The Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club meets at Hearthstone Country Club on the first, second, and third Tuesday of each month at 12:15 for lunch and informative programs. For more information, call John Carroll at 281-463-0373, George Crawl at 832-467-1998 or Peggy Presnell at 281-304-7127. We invite you to be our guest at one of the meetings and enjoy the fellowship of Kiwanians from your community as you learn about our organization. **CHILDREN PRIORITY ONE** is the motto of Kiwanis Clubs worldwide. The Cy-Fair Kiwanis Club sponsors nine Key Clubs and one Buildersâ€™ Club in the Cy-Fair School District; sponsors the Kids Triathlon; Girl Scout, Boy Scout, and Sea Scout troops and activities; awards scholarships to outstanding Key Club members in our district; provides assistance to Cypress Assistance Ministries and Bear Creek Ministries; the Houston Food Bank; and many other nonprofit organizations.



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A Focus On Resolutions

By: Concentra Urgent Care

The New Year is a great time to make healthy lifestyle changes. According to the US Department of Health and Human Services, the most common resolutions focus on losing weight, getting fit, quitting smoking, and reducing stress. These are important themes that can reduce your risk of disease. Here are ways you can achieve your goals this year.

LOSING WEIGHT

A weight loss of five to seven percent of your body weight can improve your health and quality of life. It can also help prevent weight-related health problems, like diabetes. Changing your eating habits and increasing your physical activity are keys to successful weight loss and help to maintain optimal weight for the rest of your life. Create a plan for healthy eating and increased physical activity, while taking in fewer calories than you use. Your healthy eating plan should include:

- Taking into account foods you like and dislike
 - A focus on fresh fruits, vegetables, and whole grains
 - Fat-free or low-fat dairy products such as yogurt, cheese, and milk
 - Protein sources such as lean meats, poultry, fish, beans, eggs, and nuts
 - Avoiding saturated and trans fats such as animal fat, butter, and hydrogenated oils
 - Staying away from foods high in sodium and added sugars
- For more information on weight management and improving

nutritional practices, visit the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases at www.win.niddk.nih.gov/publications/for_life.htm.

GETTING FIT

Regular physical activity for at least 30 minutes each day, or broken up into several shorter periods of 20, 15, or 10 minutes, can help you lose weight, keep it off, and stay fit. It can also improve your energy and mood and lower your risk for heart disease, diabetes, and some cancers. Try some of these physical activities:

- Walking (15-minute miles or 4 miles per hour)
- Biking
- Tennis
- Aerobic exercise classes (step aerobics, kickboxing, dancing)
- Yard work or house cleaning (gardening, raking, mopping, vacuuming)

Taking the first step can be the hardest part. Start slowly, at a level that is comfortable for you and add activity as you go along. Sometimes, it helps to have a friend or activity buddy when you start out. It is recommended that adults get at least two and a half hours of moderate physical activity each week. Strengthening activities, such as pushups, sit-ups, or lifting weights, at least two days per week are also encouraged. For more information on getting fit, visit the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports at <http://fitness.gov/>. Happy New Year from Concentra Urgent Care!



HOUSTON F-BODY CLUB

WANTED: All generations and models of Camaros, Firebirds, Trans Ams. Houston-F-Body.org is a club that meets on the third Saturday of each month from 2 pm to 5 pm at Texadelphia on 6025 Westheimer Road. We provide a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere for all F-Body owners and enthusiasts. Visit our website at <http://www.houston-f-body.org/> and sign up for a free membership. Our next meet is on Saturday, January 15th.

www.houston-f-body.org



MUSTANG CLUB OF CYPRESS

Mustang Car Owners come join the Mustang Club of Cypress. This is a dues free club for Mustang owners. Meeting location Cypress Station Grill in Cypress near Lowes on January 14th at 7:00 pm. Request membership through our Facebook page "Mustang Club of Cypress" You must be a current Mustang owner to join. E-mail us at mcocy2735@yahoo.com or call Art after 6:00 pm.



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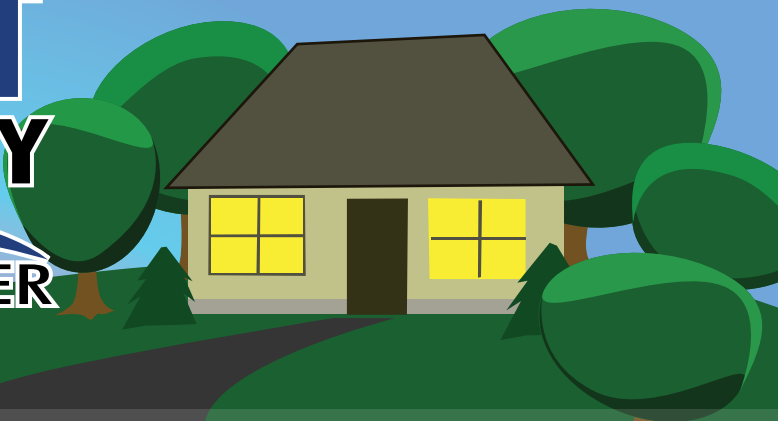
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- Kids Stuff -

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



The Story on Scars

Holly loved nothing more than riding her bike. But one day, she missed a curb and hit the pavement - splat! Now her knee was scraped and her elbow was cut. Her brother Darren helped Holly up and used his T-shirt to dab at the blood on her elbow. "Wow," he said, "You're probably going to have a huge scar."

WHAT EXACTLY IS A SCAR?

A scar is the pale pink, brown, or silvery patch of skin that grows in the place where you once had a cut, scrape, or sore. A scar is your skin's way of repairing itself from injury. Look at your skin. You probably have one or two scars already. Most people do. Why? Because a lot of things leave behind scars - from falls, like the one Holly had, to surgeries.

Scars are part of life and they show what you've been through. For some people, scars are special. A kid in your class might have a scar on his chest because he had heart surgery as a baby. Or you might have a scar from the chicken pox. Centuries ago, warriors showed off their scars as symbols of their bravery and to impress their friends with the exciting tales about how each one happened. Do any of your scars have a story?

HOW DO I GET A SCAR?

No matter what caused your scar, here's how your skin repaired the open wound. The skin sent a bunch of collagen (say: ka-leh-jen) - tough, white protein fibers that act like bridges - to reconnect the broken tissue. As the body did its healing work, a dry, temporary crust formed over the wound. This crust is called a scab.

The scab's job is to protect the wound as the damaged skin heals underneath. Eventually, a scab dries up and falls off on its own, leaving behind the repaired skin and, often, a scar.

A scar isn't always a sure thing, though. "It's not so much how deep or severe a wound is that determines whether a scar will form, but rather the location of the wound and that person's genetic [inherited] tendency to form scars," says Brian Flyer, a doctor from California.

In other words, certain people tend to get scars more easily, and scars are more likely to form after wounds on certain parts of the body.

HOW DO I PREVENT A SCAR?

Of course, the best way to prevent scars is to prevent wounds! You can reduce your chances of getting hurt by wearing kneepads, helmets, and other protective gear when you play sports, ride your bike, or go in-line skating. But even with protective gear, a person can still get hurt once in a while. If this happens, you can take steps to prevent or reduce scarring. You can help your skin heal itself by treating it well during the healing process.

How do you do that? Keep the wound covered as it heals so you can keep out bacteria and germs. Avoid picking at the scab because it tears at the collagen and could introduce germs into the wound. Some doctors say vitamin C (found in oranges and other citrus fruits) helps by speeding up the creation of new skin cells and the shedding of old ones. Also, some people believe rubbing vitamin E on the wound after the scab begins forming can aid the healing process. Your parent can talk to your doctor about whether you should try this.

SO LONG, SCARS!

Some scars fade over time. If yours doesn't and it bothers you, there are treatments that can make a scar less noticeable, such as skin-smoothing medicated creams, waterproof makeup, or even minor surgery. Talk to your parent and doctor to find out if any of these treatments would be right for you.

Sometimes the best medicine might just be to talk. Tell your parent or doctor what's bothering you about your scar and how you feel on the inside. Because when the inside feels good, the outside always seems to look better!

Updated and reviewed by: Patrice Hyde, MD • Date reviewed: January 2007

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



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