

Volume 13, Issue 5

May 2014

## Lakes on Eldridge Easter Egg Hunt

The young children of Lakes on Eldridge and their families enjoyed a fun filled morning at the annual Easter Egg Hunt held in front of the clubhouse, April 12, 2014. The children collected plastic candy filled eggs, enjoyed refreshments, and had their picture taken with the Easter Bunny, aka Mr. Bunny. There were 2000 candy filled eggs for the children to find and carrots to collect from Mr. Bunny. They had a great time and fun was had by ALL.

It takes many volunteers to make this event possible for the Lakes on Eldridge families with young children. The hunt would not be possible without their help! Many have volunteered for the past several years and their willingness to continue to help is sincerely appreciated. It is great to see the smile of these young children of the excitement of the hunt of so many eggs and the excitement of meeting Mr. Bunny and his carrots.

#### Many thanks to:

\*The Lakes on Eldridge Social Committee for hosting the event and providing the refreshments

\*Gus Lester for being a great sport and playing "Mr. Bunny".

\*Deborah Dunaway for being Mr. Bunny's transportation director

\* Clive Gardner for being Mr. Bunny's photographer

\* Again we all owe a special thanks to Georgia Shotwell for organizing and managing this event, one of the most popular events



in our community - Thanks from all of us, Georgia!

\*In addition, special thanks goes to : Linda Higdon, Phyllis Baker, Georgia Shotwell, Kay Horsch, Kim Treas, Celeste Fritz, Lee Mueller and Clive Gardner for setting up, hiding the eggs and above all doing the clean up after the event!

If you are one of the families that enjoyed the hunt, please extend your hand of thanks to the many volunteers that make this event worthwhile. Keep in mind that the Lakes on Eldridge Social Committee is always in need of willing volunteers in order to hold these great events for our residents to enjoy. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact Georgia Shotwell at gshotwell@sbcglobal.net or (281)460-8505.



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#### LOE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

To contact a member of the Board of Directors, call Elise Campagna with First Service Residential 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:

Carlon Thorpe	President
Gary Fehsenfeld	
David Westphal	Secretary
Doug Ray	Treasurer
Gene Giles	Director

Visit the Association Website: www.lakesoneldridge.net



#### CLUBHOUSE UPDATE

As you've probably noticed, a lot of work is happening on the exterior of our new clubhouse. Unfortunately, the interior completion has been held up by the issuance of the fire permit by the county. As soon as we have the permit resolved, we will be back to full speed on the interior completion. However, rather than hold up the swimming pool area and the new covered lanai areas for completion of the interior, the Board has decided to have an Exterior Grand Opening in late May. Watch your email for the exact date and time!! If you're not receiving community emails, send your contact information to elise.campagna@fsresidential.com.

We look forward to seeing you at this major milestone for our community!!

#### **COMMUNITY MAINTENANCE**

No doubt you've noticed the fountain at the upper pond on Lake A north of tennis courts has been replaced. This fountain was unreliable with frequent plugging of the original three spouts. It is now a floating fountain with a different spray pattern. The fountain at Lake C in Pelican Point has also been experiencing problems and the BOD has authorized necessary repairs. At Lake B, near Crescent Cove, several pallets of new grass sod were installed near our babbling brook. Less expensive options had been tried for reclamation of this area over the last few years, but without success. New irrigation has now been installed with the sod to keep this area more attractive. Mulch has been applied throughout the subdivision. We are currently evaluating the perennials for freeze damage and replacement as needed. Seasonal color will be installed in early May. In response to community input, the volleyball court was cleaned and 65 yards of new sand was added.

#### CLUBHOUSE AND SWIMMING POOL ACCESS

The procedures for Swimming Pool access will change from the old pass key approach to a new, more secure key fob system when the pool reopens. The new clubhouse will have two pool access gates, one on each side of the clubhouse. You can gain access to the pool through either of these gates between 5 a.m. and 10 p.m. daily. The locks on these gates can only be opened with a key fob. Each key fob issued will be linked to a single owner or resident and each time it is used that owner's or resident's name will be recorded on the master computer. In addition, there will be cameras monitoring each gate which will record a picture of the key fob user. The key fobs will not work during the times when the pool is closed. Owners and residents who wish to access the swimming pool area will be required to purchase a key fob to open these pool access gates. Each key fob must be associated with an individual. Key fobs will not be issued to non-LOE relatives or guests. The cost of a fob is \$15. More information and the application for key fobs will be issued by eblast in the near future.

(Continued on Page 4)



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#### (Continued from Page 2)

Cameras are also located throughout the property including the full pool area. Any vandalism or failure to follow pool rules can result in deactivating your key fob as well as payment for damages as appropriate. Key fobs will only be issued to residents or owners whose HOA dues are current. Any owner or resident in arrears should contact First Service.

Finally, please keep in mind that we will be adopting a Swim At Your Own Risk policy when the pool reopens. No life guards will be provided at any time, so it will be necessary for adults to accompany your children each and every time they enter the swimming pool area. Many HOA's have found this policy beneficial. We are going to implement it during this summer and evaluate its continuance after the season.

#### LOE STREET PARKING

Did you know that Lakes on Eldridge has rules regarding parking on the street? LOE adopted a Resolution Regarding Parking on the Street in September of 2002 which states:

1. On street parking of vehicles is discouraged except for short periods of time.

2. No vehicle shall be parked at any time so as to:

a. Inhibit the free flow of traffic, including emergency vehicles.

b. Create a safety hazard.

c. Block access to driveways, fire hydrants, mailboxes, etc.

d. Block a clear view of any intersection.

e. Be parked directly across the street from a driveway.

3. Commercial vehicles must be parked in an enclosed garage at all times.

4. Vehicles that are not properly licensed, registered and inspected may not be operated on Lakes of Eldridge. Please visit Lakes on Eldridge website, Community Files, Governing Documents (www.lakesoneldridge.net) for the complete restrictions and remedies.

#### LOE NEWSLETTER COORDINATOR

LOE has a newsletter coordinator! We want to thank and welcome Linda Higdon to this important volunteer position. If you have any suggestions for articles or newsworthy community events, please contact Linda at libohigdon@sbcglobal.net.

## LOE BOOK CLUB

We have had great discussions at all of our meetings so far this year. Our book selections have turned out to be very interesting reads. Consider joining us on the 4th Monday of each month at 7:30 P.M. We take turns hosting the meeting and sometimes change the date or book, so please contact celeste.fritz@gmail. com to get the details for each meeting.

May 19 – Americanah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. One of *The New York Times's* Ten Best Books of the Year and an NBCC Award Finalist. An NPR "Great Reads" Book, a *Chicago Tribune* Best Book, a *Washington Post* Notable Book, a *Seattle Times* Best Book, an *Entertainment Weekly* Top Fiction Book, a Newsday Top 10 Book, and a Goodreads Best of the Year pick. A powerful, tender story of race and identity by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, the award-winning author of *Half of a Yellow Sun*.

June 23 – Me Before You by Jojo Moyes. They had nothing in common until love gave them everything to lose . . . Louisa Clark is an ordinary girl living an exceedingly ordinary life—steady boyfriend, close family—who has barely been farther afield than their tiny village. She takes a badly needed job working for ex Master of the Universe Will Traynor, who is wheelchair bound after an accident. Will has always lived a huge life—big deals, extreme sports, worldwide travel—and now he's pretty sure he cannot live the way he is.

**July 28 – The Boy on the Wooden Box by Leon Leyson.** Even in the darkest of times—*especially* in the darkest of times—there is room for strength and bravery. A remarkable memoir from Leon Leyson, one of the youngest children to survive the Holocaust on Oskar Schindler's list.

**August 25 – Inferno by Dan Brown.** Harvard professor of symbology Robert Langdon awakens in an Italian hospital, disoriented and with no recollection of the past thirty-six hours, including the origin of the macabre object hidden in his belongings. With a relentless female assassin trailing them through Florence, he and his resourceful doctor, Sienna Brooks, are forced to flee. Embarking on a harrowing journey, they must unravel a series of codes, which are the work of a brilliant scientist whose obsession with the end of the world is matched only by his passion for one of the most influential masterpieces ever written, Dante Alighieri's *The Inferno*.





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# CALLOWAY/CORNELIUS GOOD NEIGHBOR PROGRAM

What a difference one month can make! Many more colorful flowers and great weather to help make your gardens pop. Continue weeding, watering and working on those wonderful yards. You will be amazed at what you and Mother Nature can create and be proud of. The following is a list and photos of our two winners and names of our two honorable mentions for May:

Winner: Francesca Regali 12819 Rock Falls Way



Winner: Phyllis Welch 12122 Millstream Way



Honorable Mention: Charlotte & Ed Sodolak – 12503 Evening Shore Honorable Mention: Raghavendra & Gayathru Kongovi – 5314 Wyndham Springs

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

## SWANS CAN BE DANGEROUS

This time of the year, Mother Nature provides our LOE swans with some common sense. It is mating, nesting, and egg-laying season and they feel the need to protect their territory against predators including humans, dogs, and waterfowl. Most of the swans in our neighborhood are not old enough to mate but some will go through the motions of even building a nest. The pairs of swans that are old enough to produce young (cygnets) are normally gentle and can be hand fed while posing no threat. However, our cobs (males) will become aggressive and territorial in trying to protect his pen (female) and nest. This is usually temporary until mating season is over. If you are walking past a lake and a swan swims to your side and follows you, BEWARE! If you see a swan with his neck back and feathers up such as the one in the accompanying picture, please stay away, do not attempt to feed him, and walk on the other side of the street as he is in his ATTACK position. Please warn your nannies and sitters not to stroll babies around the swans. We must try to remember that the swans are merely protecting their territory and readying the area for their young. We need to be as cautious of them as they are of us. Thank you for your cooperation!



## **5 REASONS TO SELL NOW!**

Many sellers are still hesitant about putting their house up for sale. Where are prices headed? Where are interest rates headed? Can buyers qualify for a mortgage? These are all valid questions. However, there are several reasons to sell your home sooner rather than later.

#### I. THE MOST SERIOUS BUYERS ARE OUT NOW

Most people realize that the housing market is hottest from April through June.

#### 2. THERE IS LESS COMPETITION NOW

Current inventory is low. The choices buyers have are expected to increase over the next few months.

#### 3. THE PROCESS WILL BE QUICKER

As the market heats up, banks will be inundated with loan inquiries causing closing timelines to lengthen. Selling now will make the process quicker and simpler.

#### 4. THERE WILL NEVER BE A BETTER TIME TO MOVE-UP

Prices are projected to appreciate by over 19% from now to 2018. If you are moving to a higher priced home, it will wind-up costing you more in raw dollars (both in down payment and mortgage payment) if you wait.

#### 5. IT'S TIME TO MOVE ON WITH YOUR LIFE

Look at the reason you decided to sell in the first place and decide whether it is worth waiting.



For More Information, Contact KAY HORSCH Realtor & Lakes on Eldridge Resident

713.703.8313 kay@kayhorsch.com heritagetexas.com





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#### TIMELY TIPS FOR MAY GARDENERS

Due to the vast and diverse geography of our great state, Texas is home to nearly 5,000 native plant species! Often people envision "native plants" with Mesquites and Cacti but many of our basic landscape plants are native to Texas. Native plants tolerate the Texas summer heat better than most, require less water, less mowing, provide habitats for birds, butterflies and other wildlife, protect the soil and save on fertilizers and insecticides.

Texas Mountain Laurels or Desert Willows are native trees that will add colorful blooms to your landscape. For addition blooms and a Texas Sage with the purple summer flowers or a Red Yucca with its red spike-like blooms to the landscape.

Don't forget the reliable perennials for providing Texas tough color! Blackfoot Daisy, Gaura, Coneflower and many of your Salvias are native to Texas and will provide color year after year once they are established. Perennials are often those plants that can be divided, shared and passed on from generation to generation. You can also use perennials in a "cutting garden". Select varieties that will bloom at different times of the year so something will always be in bloom.

Don't forget Mom this month! Color in May comes from more than a bouquet of blossoms for Mom on Mother's Day! Plan ahead and give that special lady a naturally-inspired bouquet that changes with the seasons. Add an **Encore**<sup>®</sup> **Azalea** for beautiful blooms from Spring through Fall. This collection tolerates more sun and is more cold tolerant than the



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average Azalea. **Bloom-a-Thon**<sup>®</sup> and **ReBloom**<sup>®</sup> **Azaleas** also give the additional blooming seasons but require more shade. Another flowering winner is the **Knock Out**<sup>®</sup> **Rose**, from single to double blooms, this family provides continuous flowers until the first freeze.

LOE residents, Annabelle Alemand, (Wendy) and Cameron Alemand (Peter Pan) starred in Yorkshire Academy's production of Peter Pan, performed at Stratford High School.





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.

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## Adoptable Dog of the Month



He was rescued from neglect and abuse after spending years confined in a narrow crate outside in a front yard, without shade or enough food and water.

Petey is a mix with many positive traits of several breeds; a true Heinz 57.

He's in need for a foster/foster to adopt. He's been doing so good and is starting to learn some manners and social skills. He's learning what toys are and what it's like to be able to run. He was neutered recently and had his eyelids corrected so they wouldn't hurt him anymore. He loves and I repeat LOVES affection and human contact. That's quite astounding considering he's never had any his whole 7-9 years of life. He's currently being treated for heartworm and is handling it very well.

If you or anyone you know would consider letting him into your heart and home, please call Kayla Crane at (281) 979-6000 or Anke Arnold at

(713) 856-6795. He would do best in a calm environment with no small children or other doggies. He really is a sweet boy and would make such an awesome companion.







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## Come Cheer the LOE DolphinsSwim Team!

The new swim season is finally here and our enthusiastic swimmers from the nearby neighborhoods are excited to be back in action and are looking forward to their first meet! We are very excited to announce our 2014 swim team coaches: Elizabeth Allen, Amanda Chow, Madison Taylor and Audrey Vinall.

We really appreciate the Lakes on Eldridge North and Villages of Lake Pointe communities allowing us to use their facilities for practices this season!

Below is the season's calendar for easy reference. For the latest information, go to our website www.loedolphins.org and click on "Meets and Events". All of our meets this year will be AWAY!

#### **MEET SCHEDULE FOR 2014**

May 10 - AWAY Winchester Time Trials May 17 - AWAY Cypress Mill May 24 - AWAY Copperfield May 31 - AWAY Bridgeland June 7 - AWAY Lakewood Forest June 14 - AWAY Woodland Waves June 21 - Divisional Meet (Location TBD) Check the website www.loedolphins.org for important dates, and also for everything and anything about the LOEST DOLPHINS! Our website also offers a "contact" link that you can use to send questions and comments about LOEST.

#### **SEND US YOUR** *Event Pictures!!*

Do you have a picture of an event that you would like to run in this newsletter? Send it to us and we will publish it in the next issue. Email the picture to lakesoneldridge@peelinc. com Be sure to include the text that you would like to have as the caption. Pictures will appear in color online at *www.PEELinc.com*.





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