

Volume 14, Issue 5

May 2015

NEW FIBER OPTIC LINE INSTALLATION

AT&T is installing new gigabit fiber optics capability for the entire subdivision west of Turkey Creek. For the residents east of Turkey Creek, AT&T has said installation will happen within the next 5 years.

Here's a brief summary of the construction sequence in the common area that began in March and should be completed in May, weather permitting:

1. Conduit pipe has been installed throughout the subdivision. Most of this pipe was buried in the Common Areas, but several runs were necessary in back yards to reach home sites that were too far from the Common Areas. Heavy duty drill equipment was used to make the long runs of cable underground. The shorter pipe runs under fences and brick walls to new pedestals in homeowner yards were dug/buried by hand.

2. New fiber optics pedestals are being installed; generally near where existing copper wire AT&T pedestals now exist. However, some new pedestals will be installed in different back yards. These new pedestals can serve 12 homes, although geography often limits this capability. The old copper wire AT&T pedestals will be left intact.

3. After the pipe and pedestals are in place, the new fiber optics lines will be installed. These lines run from the main fiber optics box (called a PFP), located outside the subdivision on Tanner, to all of the new pedestals.

4. After the prime contractor completes steps 1-3, AT&T will send a splicing team to connect all the fiber optics cables from the PFP to the pedestals.

5. When all of the fiber optics connections are made, the prime contractor will return to repair damage and restore everything in the Common Areas and in homeowner yards, except for unavoidable

damage to structures that were illegally built in AT&T's easement.

6. We have been advised that AT&T is likely to start offering this new gigabit service to homeowners in June. Once a resident signs up for the new service, a new fiber optics line will need to be run from the new pedestals to the individual homeowner. These small fiber optics lines from pedestals to homes will be buried 6" deep by hand.

This project has placed a tremendous strain on the subdivision. The prime contractor did not meet with the HOA prior to beginning construction and was a bit reckless with regard to avoiding our main irrigation water supply lines. They accidentally broke a natural gas line and two main electrical supply lines which were improperly marked by Centerpoint. They also broke a major phone trunk line. Representatives from the HOA Board have now met with everyone involved and secured their commitment to do a better job. Nevertheless, we anticipate there could be additional problems especially with the inexactness of locating buried lines in a fully developed subdivision. We also recognize that things look very messy where the contractors have been burying lines, and there are lots of holes remaining that are ugly and potentially dangerous. You will see these holes gradually filling-up over the next several weeks. Please be assured that we will insist that they put everything back in good order. In the meantime, we ask that you be patient and, for safety sake, avoid all of these messy areas and areas where lots of heavy equipment and trucks are parked. If you have any major concerns, please contact Elise Campagna at First Service Residential.

More information about the AT&T project can be found at the following link.

<http://blog.chron.com/techblog/2015/04/att-launches-its-gigapower-internet-service-in-houston/>

Lakes on Eldridge

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| First Service Residential..... | 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) | |
| TNG Utility (Water)..... | 281-350-0895 |
| 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 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:

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Carlton Thorpe..... | President |
| Gary Fehsenfeld | Vice President |
| David Westphal..... | Secretary |
| Doug Ray..... | Treasurer |
| Gene Giles | Director |

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LOE Concrete and Sidewalk Project

The Board has approved Harken Contracting Services to repair damaged sidewalks and curbs throughout the LOE common areas. The project is expected to begin in late May to avoid a conflict between the cable work being done by AT&T and Harken's curb repair. Additional notification will be sent when we have a more precise date for project initiation.

As part of this proposal the Board obtained preferred pricing for homeowner sidewalk repairs that can be completed at the same time Harken is doing work in the common areas. The pricing is dependent on exact footage, but is approximately \$31-34 dollars per linear foot. As a reminder, any sidewalks in front of a home including sidewalks bordering along the side of corner lots are owned and must be maintained by the homeowner. If you are interested in taking advantage of this reduced pricing, please contact Elise Campagna at elise.campagna@fsresidential.com and she will coordinate with Harken in order for them to provide pricing for any repair. The scheduling and payment of any homeowner repairs will be handled between the homeowner and Harken.



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WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE ON THE LOE BOARD?

This October the LOE Board anticipates one or more openings. If you would be interested in possibly serving the community, the Board would like to meet with you now to help you understand the responsibilities and time commitment. Ideal Board members have a strong background in Business, Engineering, Finance, Accounting or Legal. In an average year, Board members typically spend about 4 hours per week discussing issues with a formal monthly meeting lasting approximately 4 hours. Board members also work with subdivision committees. Board membership is a service position to the community. It is a big commitment, but very rewarding. If you would be interested in serving, please contact elise.campagna@fsresidential.com for an application. One or more current Board members will get back to you.



Fitness Committee Volunteer Needed

The Lakes on Eldridge Fitness Committee is seeking additional members and particularly needs a member to volunteer to coordinate flex room fitness related activities including the use of Zumba DVD's. This position is similar to what is done by the Tennis Committee and involves the development of a schedule and posting of events on the bulletin board located outside and next to the flex room entrance door.

If you would be interested in serving on the committee please contact elise.campagna@fsresidential.com.



For More Information, Contact

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- 2014 Average sales price climbed 6.6%.*
- All-time low inventory of homes for sale at 2.5 months.*
- Houston's diversification will shield the housing market from drastic 1980's-style declines.**
- Job growth rate will slow but 65,000 new jobs are expected.**
- Slight decline in number of homes sold but the prices will still increase.**
- Continued low interest rates and new lending programs make home ownership affordable.

What does this mean?

The market is gearing up and buyers are ready. Capitalize on high demand and the current lack of inventory by listing your home now. If you are thinking about selling, leasing or relocating in the near future, please contact me for a complimentary market analysis.

* HAR MLS ** Dr. Ted Jones, Stewart Title

LAKEs ON ELDRIDGE 2015 EASTER EGG HUNT



The young children of Lakes on Eldridge and their families enjoyed a fun-filled morning at the annual Easter Egg Hunt in front of the LOE clubhouse, Saturday March 28, 2015. The excited children searched for plastic candy filled eggs, enjoyed refreshment, 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. The weather was great and fun was had by ALL.

Volunteers make this annual event possible for the Lakes on Eldridge families with small children to enjoy. Many have volunteered for the past several years and their willingness to continue to help is sincerely appreciated. Grateful recognition extended to:

- The Lakes on Eldridge Social Committee and Lakes on Eldridge Homeowners Association for hosting the event and providing the eggs and refreshments
- Gus Lester for being a great sport and playing “Mr. Bunny”
- Deborah Dunaway for being Mr. Bunny’s dressing coordinator
- Clive Garner and Luz Ramirez for being photographers for Mr. Bunny
- Phyllis Baker, Luz Ramirez Belliot, Sylvere Belliot, Clive Garner, Linda Higdon, and Georgia Shotwell 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 those volunteers who made 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 for future LOE social events or for more information, please contact Georgia Shotwell at

gshotwell@sbcglobal.net or
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YARD OF THE MONTH

Having served for the past five years as the Lakes on Eldridge Chairperson for Yard of the Month, this will be my last year to serve. This Good Neighbor Program requires a couple of LOE volunteers who enjoy gardening and would love to oversee this Program. The Chairperson would be working with Cornelius Nursery which would probably take about 3-4 hours a month of your time. In the beginning, I will provide learning instructions for the new volunteers. Please let me know if you are interested. My number is 713-466-3306.

Thanks, Maggie Wegner

The Yard of the Month winners for the month of May are:

WINNER

Suzie & Greg Price -12715 Rock Falls Way



WINNER

Sherjeet Gremal - 12110 Laguna Point Ln.



HONORABLE MENTION

Kandi & Mike Lawson - 5523 Island Breeze Dr.



HONORABLE MENTION

Gary Fehsenfeld -12215 Pebble Meadows



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



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Lakes on Eldridge

Gate Committee Volunteers Needed

The technology that opens and closes our gates is getting quite dated. We need to have a plan for updating the technology, but maybe even re-thinking how we want vehicles coming and going from the community. If you would like to have input and be involved in gate solutions, please let Elise Campagna know. If you have been previously involved with the gates, whether repairing or resetting them or reviewing and revising procedures for entering and exiting the front or side gates, AND are still interested in being involved, let Elise Campagna know. This could be an exciting time to be involved with the community working on a very visible and useful amenity. It is best to let Elise know by emailing her at Elise.Campagna@fsresidential.com.



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SHIRLEY KIRK ESPOUSED EXCELLENCE AND LENT HER NAME TO AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Recently, the namesake for Kirk Elementary School was reported to have passed away.

In 1930, Miss Shirley Ann's earthly arrival was in Little River, Texas. After receiving her education from Mary Hardin Baylor and University of Texas, finding time to marry Mr. Kirk and together bringing forth two children, then onward to dedicating her life to her church and 39 years of teaching. Endearing words to describe her character are found in condolences from family, friends, associates but the most revealing were those who offered anecdotes:

- ...used her in an analogy with my class about how hard work pays off. She expected the best from her students, and she was always there to support us.
- Her portrait in the entry way always greeted us each morning... in person we met a gentle, compassionate and caring person who visited Kirk Elementary on a regular basis.
- ...truly miss you Shirley Huckabee Kirk. You tried so hard to teach me to sew, but I was all thumbs.

Have you ever considered the possibility that your name could be chosen for a special recognition, not for eternity but perhaps certain passages of history? It would be unseemly that Mrs. Shirley Kirk ever gave it a thought. Based on the demonstrated tenets of her unselfish life, she met the criteria set forth by the Cy-Fair Independent School District:

- what the nominee has contributed;
- the length of association with the district;
- the impact the nominee had on the district as a whole; and
- the regard the nominee was held in by the community and colleagues

Namesakes are given only to new elementary and middle schools in CFISD and the individual chosen must have retired in CFISD. The process is not complicated. The CFISD Board of Trustees chooses from a list of nominations who have met the definitive criteria; the result being a highly respected honor for the recipient.

Institutional buildings are generally bestowed with highly regarded names. In CFISD, the namesake trend seems very appropriate for a growing District that is opening more schools. Conferring the name Shirley Kirk on the elementary school bordering the Lakes on Eldridge would instill an ongoing challenge for all students to strive for success just like this wonderful woman who willingly agreed to lend her name to a structure which houses that which she loved.

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Timely Tips for May Gardeners from Calloway's and Cornelius

May is the month that makes us think of beautiful flowers. Visits to Calloway's / Cornelius Nursery, the Dallas Arboretum, and the Fort Worth Botanic Gardens will stimulate lots of new ideas and possibilities for your landscape.

Don't forget Mom this month! Mother's Day is May 10th. In a recent survey more than 30% of Moms of all ages want something garden related for her Mother's Day gift. Instead of the usual vase of cut flowers, plan ahead and give that special person a naturally-inspired bouquet that changes with seasons, a beautiful container garden.

Although pansies may still be looking great early in May, it's about time to pull them and plant summer flowering plants. Once it gets hot, pansies go down fast. Annuals and perennials give you lots of color bang for your buck. Pinch back growth of newly planted annual and perennial plants. This results in shorter, compact plants with more flowers.

Allow the foliage of daffodils and other spring flowering bulbs to mature and yellow before removing.

Spread a second application of pre-emergent for crabgrass and grass. Fertilize lawns with the final feeding before summer. Fertilize roses every four to six weeks and control black spot with a systemic fungicide. Feed trees and shrubs with Calloway's 16-8-8 Tree and Shrub Food.



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WHAT HAPPENED ON THE MARKET IN 2014?

RENTALS V/S SALES IN LOE AND LOEN
BETWEEN 1/1/2014 AND 12/31/2014

MORE HOMES HAVE LEASED THAN SOLD IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

| !!!!!!!!!! | RENTALS CLOSED | SALES CLOSED |
|------------|----------------|--------------|
| LOE | 38 | 39 |
| LOEN | 60 | 57 |
| TOTAL | 98 | 96 |

*PLEASE EMAIL ME OR CALL ME FOR INSIGHT ON WHAT
THESE FIGURES COULD MEAN!*



DANIELLE GEBARA

Resident of Lakes on Eldridge North

832-788-6002

danielle@dgebbara.com



LOE BOOK CLUB

We have nailed down our schedule through the summer. Below is a brief description of each selection. We meet the 4th Monday of each month at 7:30 P.M. (unless we decide to skip a month or change the meeting day). 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 - skipped because of Memorial Day

June 22 - Red Leaves by Paullina Simons. This is a tale of an Ivy League campus devastated by the intractable mystery at the heart of a student's death. Four students and their relationships lie at the core of this dazzling novel of mystery, murder and suspense, set in a snowbound Ivy League college. Their focal point is brilliant basketball star Kristina Kim – apparently happy and stable, but soon revealed to have hidden secrets. When she is found dead in the snow, it falls to local detective Spencer O'Malley, a man who had half fallen in love with her, to investigate the crime. The spotlight falls on her three closest friends... and a story as gothic and intense as a modern-day Wuthering Heights begins to unravel.

July 27 - The Kitchen House by Judy Kibler. In this gripping *New York Times* bestseller, Kathleen Grissom brings to life a thriving plantation in Virginia in the decades before the Civil War, where a dark secret threatens to expose the best and worst in everyone tied to the estate.

So many books, so little time!.....



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Lakes on Eldridge

MANAGING DUCK POPULATION AT LOE



We are having problems at Lakes on Eldridge with the number of mallard ducks that have multiplied and are about to multiply again. Many of these ducks are nesting right now. I am asking those of you whose houses are on the lakes to be watchful of a male mallard sitting near your yard. This means his mate probably has a nest full of eggs. Please help by checking under your shrubs and remove all but three eggs from the nest. This gives the mother a chance to hatch some of her clutch but not give us another 13 baby ducklings. I will be glad to pick up the eggs from you and will incubate the eggs giving the one day old ducklings to Wabash Antiques to sell. Should anyone be interested in incubating, you can borrow my incubator and have a wonderful spring and summer project; as noted earlier you do not have to raise the ducklings.

There is concern about the numbers of wild ducks which I call whistlers or Mexican geese. We try to feed when they are not too numerous. Recently, the muscovite ducks have been flying over to LOE from LOEN or Twin Lakes; they will lay 20 eggs and their babies are hardy. Muscovies multiply laying more eggs than mallards and they nest all year. The Egyptian Geese and muscovies are roosting at our clubhouse pool decking which makes for a constant cleaning of the deck. We are down to four swans now but up in mallards and whistlers

Please help control the growing number of ducks as best we can in our Community using a conservative method. Collecting the eggs is far better than having predation which occurs in lake and woody area when there are too many eggs and ducklings.

Thank you for your help. Please call if you need help. Betty -713 302 9929

*Wildlife experts agree that the removal of duck eggs is the most efficient, humane and inexpensive method to keep their numbers in check. There is absolutely nothing cruel about removing eggs when it's done correctly.

*http://articles.sun-sentinel.com/2014-09-20/news/fl-letter-don-anthony-20140920_1_duck-eggs-broward-college-duck-population

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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STREAMERS AT THE POOL

We know everyone is enjoying our year round open pool! Many residents have enjoyed the pool on sunny days in March and we saw even more usage in April. Before the clubhouse rebuild, the pool didn't open until Memorial weekend at the end of May.

We do need your help with two issues:

1) DO NOT REMOVE THE STREAMERS ATTACHED TO FURNITURE! These streamers have become our most effective deterrent to ducks in and around the pool. We tried several products and the streamers work best, but only if residents leave them in place.

2) RETURN FURNITURE TO ITS PROPER LOCATION. We have had several chairs and lounges moved and not returned. All lounges should be located around the pool, not close to the baby pool or the covered areas. All chairs should be around the tables. Brown chairs are for covered areas; green chairs for sunny tables. Your cooperation helps all residents enjoy the facility.

Tennis Court Update

A lot of work is being done at our tennis courts:

- The Tennis Court resurfacing should be done by the end of May. The limiting factor in finalizing the schedule is the rain. We need a week of sunny, warm weather to do the resurfacing.

- We installed a temporary test net between tennis courts 1 & 2. If this is viewed as an asset, the temporary net will be replaced with a new permanent net; also a new net will be installed between courts 2 & 3.

- We repaired the fencing around the tennis court and added wire mesh around gate handles to prevent illegal entry.

- We installed a new bulletin board for sign-ups, rules, and other tennis items. Two new benches and a new practice backboard will be installed with the resurfacing.



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Lakes on Eldridge Dolphins 16TH SEASON

The Lakes on Eldridge Dolphins Swim Team will begin their 16th season in 2015! We are again recruiting enthusiastic swimmers ages 5 – 18 looking to have great fun this spring and summer. (Swimmers must be able to swim the length of the pool by the end of the second week of practice.)

LOEST is a voluntary recreational swim team operated for Lakes on Eldridge and the surrounding neighborhoods. LOEST encourages a competitive swim team environment and provides the opportunity for growth, training, enjoyment, good sportsmanship and participation to all active team members. LOEST cannot function without parent involvement, so each participating family is required to fulfill a volunteer commitment. It's a great way to meet other families and adults in our community!

April 27 - Regular Practice Starts

MEET SCHEDULE FOR 2015:

May 9 - AWAY Winchester Time Trials

May 16 - LOE vs. Cypress Mill

May 23 - LOE vs. The Woodlands Riptides

May 30 - LOE vs. Bridgeland

June 6 - LOE vs. Deerfield Village

June 13 - LOE vs. Copperfield

June 20 - Divisionals at CySprings HS

Check the NEW website

**<http://loedolphins.swim-team.us/> for important dates, and also
for everything and anything about the LOEST DOLPHINS!**



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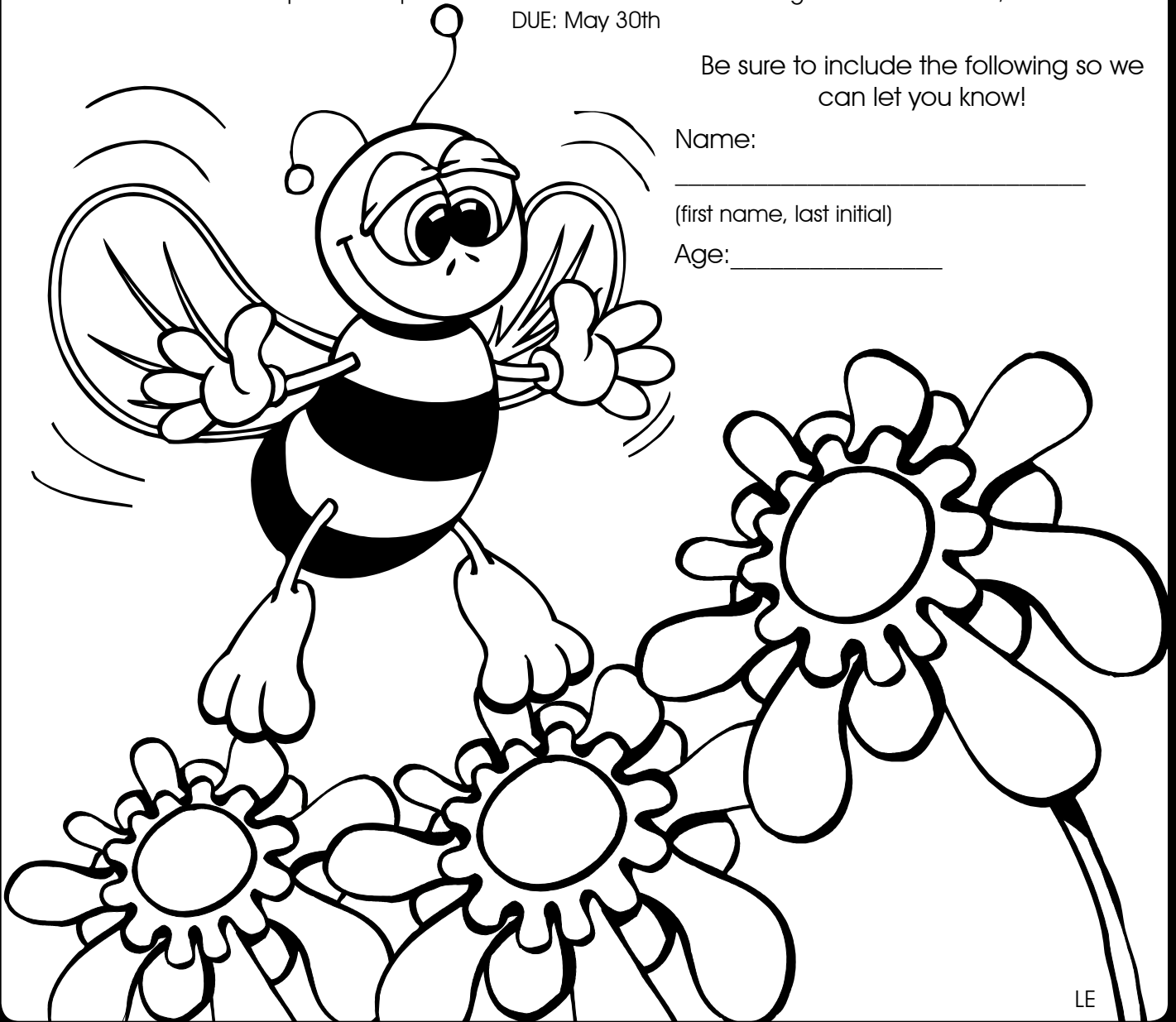
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