



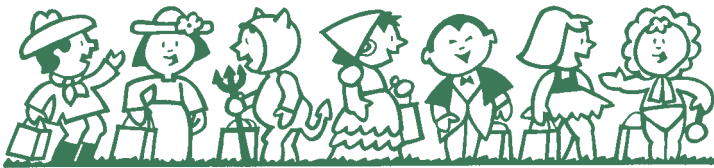
LAKES

ON ELDRIDGE
NORTH

Volume 3, Issue 10

October 2004

LOEN Annual Halloween Parade



Once again, we will hold the LOEN Halloween Parade on Halloween night. Children should come in costume. Adults are encouraged to bring a non-candy treat to put in the kid's baskets as the parade goes by. Examples include pencils, stickers, creepy bugs, super balls, (think oriental trading company). Please be up at the clubhouse at 5:00pm on Sunday October 31st to join in the festivities.

New Elementary School Boundaries

Many people have been asking about the impact of the new Elementary School (Lee) on LOEN and Kirk. Lee Elementary will be located on West Little York Road between the back gate and Eldridge. The district is set to consider the boundaries this fall. A Kirk representative from LOEN has been selected to serve on the boundaries committee.

Public Input: Beginning in November, the various boundary options being considered by the committees will be available for viewing on the district's web site (www.cfsd.net) where the public will be able to provide input to the committees and the Board of Trustees. Community members may also send input to Planning and Research, 10300 Jones Rd., Suite 901, Houston, TX, 77065.

If you feel strongly about keeping our gated community together at the same school or have any additional issues, you are encouraged to send feedback to the district. All questions and input should be directed directly to this website so that they hear our community voice. Please do not contact Van Mor, Ryko, or newsletter representatives regarding this matter as we will be using the website as well.

Public input will not be taken at the community advisory committee meetings; the public may attend the meetings but may not participate. It is anticipated that decisions regarding attendance boundaries for these schools will be made at the meeting of the Board of Trustees on January 18, 2005.

LOEN Annual Homeowners Meeting

The annual meeting for the Lakes on Eldridge North (LOEN) homeowners was held on September 15th at 7:00pm. A quorum was reached, and the minutes from the 2003 meeting were approved. Representatives from the developer, Ryko Development, and the HOA management company, VanMor Properties, were present.

Bassam Barazi, president of Ryko, presented the attending homeowners with a development update, and he confirmed that the development is still on target to be complete in 2006. All of the infrastructure, including roads, drainage, power and gas lines and lots, is complete, and most of the amenities have been completed as well. There are 703 occupied homes, 38 additional completed homes, and 88 homes under construction. Homeowners were told that our Municipal Utility District, MUD 370, is in very good economic standing, and the MUD 370 board has decided to reduce our MUD tax rate from \$1 per 100 valuation to \$0.90, effective this year.

It was also announced that two new members have been added to the HOA Board of Directors. These two new members are homeowners, and they will represent our community interests on the board. They are: Faheem Khwaja and Steve Woodall. (See additional article for more details)

(Continued on Page 2)

**SPRING FORWARD.
FALL BACK**

Daylight Savings Time ends at 2 a.m. on the last Sunday of October. Remember to set your clocks back before you go to bed on Saturday, October 30th.

Set Your
CLOCKS
Back

Lakes on Eldridge North

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

VanMor Properties, Inc. 281-493-0668
Fax 281-493-5654
Kate Loeffler, Manager
Dorinda Obsta (Dori), Administrative Assistant
Gate Attendant 713-856-6127
Harris Co. 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)
Aqua Source 713-983-3602
(Service or emergencies 24 hrs) 713-983-3604
Harris County Tax Office 713-224-1919
Reliant Energy 713-207-7777
(give pole # of street light which is out)
Entex (gas) 713-659-2111
Time Warner Cable 713-462-9000
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
Newsletter Publisher
Peel, Inc. 806-385-6444
Adver./Donna Sommer dsommerPEELinc.com, 832-237-4684

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Jillian Barkley 713-856-5912 (LOEN)

GOT NEWS??? *Deadline for submitting articles for the Lakes On Eldridge North Newsletter is the 15th of each month.. Submissions are subject to space limitations and editorial approval. E-mail your information to Jillian Barkley, jlbarkley@houston.rr.com, not VanMor.*

PERSONAL CLASSIFIED ADS: *Deadline for submitting personal classified ads is the 10th of each month for publication in the following month's newsletter. Please contact Jillian Barkley, 713-856-5912, jlbarkley@houston.rr.com.*

ADS: *Deadline for submitting ads is the 10th of each month for publication in the following month's newsletter. Please contact Donna Sommer, 832-237-4684, dsommer@PEELinc.com for information on advertising.*

Vanmor Properties, Inc. Contacts

Manager - Kate Loeffler
Administrative Assistant - Dorinda Obsta (Dori)
1505 Highway 6 South, Suite 110; Houston, Texas 77077
Phone - 281-493-0668 • Facsimile - 281-493-5654

Homeowners Meeting - (Continued from Page 1)

Additional News:

- The Tanner Road expansion project is going as planned. They are currently working on the Eldridge to Brittmore Park section. It will take approximately one year to complete the pavement portion. At that time, they will install a traffic signal for our neighborhood. Ryko Development has paid for the traffic signal, and there is expected to be a turn lane into our front entry.
- The Beltway 8 exit for Tanner Road that was proposed to the Toll Road Authority by the developer's engineers was turned down because of potential danger for crossing/merging lanes at the toll plaza.
- Additionally, plans for a traffic light at the West Little York exit are not being considered at this time.
- 17 additional streetlights are soon to go in along the back entrance road. The installation delay was caused by loss of paperwork by Centerpoint Energy.
- Because our streets are private, they are maintained, along with the curbs and sidewalks, by the HOA. If you notice any problems with them, contact VanMor.
- If you notice drainage problems or water leaks you can call VanMor as well, and they will assist in determining the cause of the problem and who is responsible for repair. You can also call the water district, Aqua Services, and they will inspect the meters free of charge.
- If you notice dead branches or a sick tree, call VanMor, and they will notify Westco. Some homeowners had questions about pruning. Pruning is done according to horticultural recommendations, and the Live Oaks do not need to be pruned until they are mature in 5 – 7 years.
- Speeding continues to be an issue on the main loop and boulevard from the back gate. Report license plate numbers to the deputy sheriff at 713-221-6000 or 281-290-2117. The police cannot set up speed traps in our neighborhood unless we hire our own patrolman. The cost to hire a courtesy patrol is approximately \$45,000 a year. There is no budget for that at this time but it can be considered once we are no longer paying for the traffic control at the front gate. PLEASE OBEY THE POSTED SPEED LIMITS for the safety of our residents.
- The board is reconsidering allowing Airbourne to deliver to homes since the offending driver has been fired.
- VanMor will investigate the closing speed of the back gate in an attempt to keep people from tailgating into the neighborhood.
- Due to homeowner concerns, Lisa Clark from Ryko Development was able to coordinate the installation of railing around the sandpits at the main pool. Thank you, Lisa!
- The handicap access equipment for the new pool has been received, and installation is in process. Please contact VanMor if you need to use it and they will arrange to train you on equipment usage.
- And lastly, a fence extension will be installed by the volleyball court.

If you have other questions or concerns, call Kate or Dori at VanMor.

We are Getting the

Word Out on...

LAKEs

ON ELDRIDGE NORTH

FAMILY EVENTS

In October

If you are looking for a great place to take the kids to enjoy some fall family fun, look no further than...

6th Annual Halloween Boo-Bash

Sunday, October 24th • 1:00-4:00 p.m.
Trader's Village • 7979 N. Eldridge Rd.
281-890-5500

Church Bazaar

Sunday, October 10th • 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
St. John Vianney Catholic Church
625 Nottingham Oaks Trail • 281-497-1500
BBQ dinner, Arts & Crafts Booths,
Silent Auction, Games, Children's Rides

Fall Carnival

Saturday, October 30th • 6:00-8:30 p.m.
Bear Creek United Methodist Church
16000 Rippling Water • 281-463-2330
Food, Games, Prizes & Costume Parade

Noah's Ark Carnival

Friday October 29th • 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Tallowood Baptist Church • 555 Tallowood
713-468-8241



Ann Knoche
annpk@heritagetexas.com

Relocating? Moving Up? Scaling Down?
Call Ann Knoche and Maureen Clemons

281.493.3880
Ext. 1911 Ext. 1904

HERITAGE
TEXAS • PROPERTIES

www.heritagetexas.com



Maureen Clemons
mclemons@heritagetexas.com



Lakes on Eldridge North

Shanay Briscoe Breaks National Junior Olympic Records

Twelve year old Shanay Briscoe of LOEN, a student at Texas Christian School and a member of the Northwest Flyers Track Club, won 4 gold medals at the 2004 USA Junior Olympic Track & Field Championships which took place July 28-July 30, in Eugene, Oregon. Shanay broke the national record in the pentathlon. She also won gold medals for the high jump, shot put, and discus.

Shanay also won three gold medals and a fourth place medal at the XXXVIII AAU Junior Olympic Games which took place August 1-August 7, in Des Moines, Iowa. She broke the record in the pentathlon. She also won gold medals for the high jump, shot put and placed fourth in the 80 meters hurdles.

Congratulations Shanay Briscoe for a job well done!!!

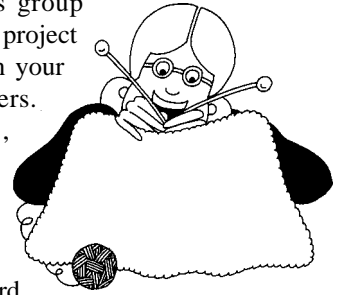
Attention Mommies!

Wanted: Boys between the ages of 3 mos. to 1 yr.

We're forming a play group for boys, since there seem to be SO many girls...not that girls aren't allowed, of course...but we figure that it's time to meet more kids (and Mommies)! Please contact Whitney Wright-Steif, mother of Jack Steif (8 mos.) at 713-937-1454 for more information. email: wright_steif@hotmail.com

LOEN Star Stitchers

The LOEN Star Stitchers group invites anyone with a portable project to attend a meeting, work on your project, and visit with others. Smockers, needlepointers, knitters, beaders, tatters, basket weavers, quilters, cross stitchers...everyone is welcomed!



Meetings will be held the third Wednesday of each month from 9-12. For location of meeting or any questions, please contact either Cindy (832-467-0950) cecklund@Houston.rr.com; Lisa (832-467-2781) lmrjkk@earthlink.net; or Belinda Walker (832-467-9391) jamewalk@prodigy.net.

Meetings

Oct 15 - Cindy Ecklund - RSVP 832-467-0950



COPPERFIELD FAMILY MEDICINE

Trey Hillert, M.D.
Carlotta Hillert, M.D.

*Specialists in
Family Medicine*

- Preventive & Diagnostic Exams • Annual Check ups
- Traditional Family Medical Care • Smoking Cessation
 - E.D. (Impotence) • Weight Loss Counseling
- General Skin Care • Acne Treatment • Spider Vein Treatment
 - Pre-employment, School & Sports Physicals

"Accepting New Patients... TODAY"

For more information on our office,
please visit our new website at

www.DoctorHillert.YourMD.com

15498 F.M. 529 @ Highway 6
Houston, Texas 77095
281-345-4747



Yorkshire Academy

Learning for a Lifetime



**Celebrating
20th Year
Anniversary**

*Come visit and see why 15 students
from your neighborhood
choose to attend Yorkshire Academy!*

Brand New State-of-the-Art Facility!

Elementary • Preschool • MDO

14120 Memorial (1 blk west of Kirkwood)

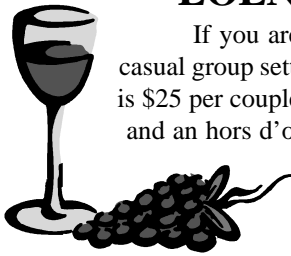
281-531-6088

Fully Accredited
www.yorkshire-academy.com

Est. 1984
email: yorkaca@swbell.net

Lakes on Eldridge North

LOEN Wine Tasting Group



If you are interested in learning about wine in a casual group setting, this may be the group for you. Cost is \$25 per couple/\$12 single; bring your own wine glass and an hors d'oeuvres or dessert. Please contact James or Belinda Walker at 832-467-9391 or jamewalk@prodigy.net for dates and further information.

Foundry Church's Craft Show and Tea Room

A Shopper's Heaven on Earth! The Foundry United Methodist Church will host over 100 vendors at its annual Judy Dierker Craft Classic on **Saturday, October 16, 2004, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.** The Craft Show offers customers terrific value and selection in a fun and friendly marketplace. Enjoy an array of salads, desserts, and coffees at Café La Mission, a Texas tea room with a French flair, open 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Admission to the craft show is FREE; tea room tickets are \$10 each, benefiting local and foreign missions. Come rain or shine! Foundry is located at 8350 Jones Road, 1-½ blocks north of Hwy 290. For more information, call 713-937-9388 or see <http://www.foundrychurch.org/jdcs/>.



Neighborhood Volunteers Needed

We are looking for someone to keep up with local class and athletic offering for the neighborhood newsletter. We need someone to keep in touch with the YMCA, local youth sports organizations, and any other locations for continuing education. This person would type up the information on a monthly basis to be included in the newsletter.

We also need someone to write up short articles each month on what is taking place at Truit Middle School and Cy-Ridge High School. If you have a child or are a student at one of these schools please consider helping us! Thank you!



ONE MONTH FREE
with purchase of 2 months.
For new or returning students who haven't attended in 6 months
Expires 10/31/04
No Membership or Joining Fees.

Bear Creek Copperfield Jazzercise Instructors

It shows in your smile.
(And in other places.)

**35 Year Anniversary
Celebration Week**
Free to New Customers
Sat. Oct. 23rd thru
Sat. Oct. 30th



When you love your workout, results come easy. That's why Jazzercise blends aerobics, yoga, Pilates, and kick-boxing movements into fun dance routines set to fresh new music. All fitness levels are welcome.

The Bear Creek/Copperfield
Jazzercise Center
15420 FM 529 @ Hwy. 6
www.jazzercise.com
281-855-FITT (3488)

jazzercise
it shows.

281-213-3909

A Pest Control Company, Ltd.

**Guaranteed 20 minute
on time appointments
for all Lakes on Eldridge North residents!**

First Pest Control Service Only \$10
Call For Details. Limited Time Offer.

**A Locally Owned
Family Business Serving
Lakes on Eldridge North
Residents with Pride.**



Call now for a free estimate!

\$20 OFF
Your first pest
control service.
Call for details.

\$25 to \$100 OFF
Any Termite
Control Service
Call for details.

Licensed - Bonded - Insured

Lakes on Eldridge North

New LOEN Board of Director Members

The board of directors of the Lakes on Eldridge North Homeowner's Association is happy to announce the addition of two new members.

Faheem Khwaja has been an LOEN resident since February 2001. He and his wife, Shazia, have two children, Sarah and Rayan, and his parents and siblings each have homes in LOEN as well. He is a Certified Financial Planner and Financial Advisor for Merrill Lynch, and he is involved with many non profit and philanthropic organizations. He recently ran for precinct chair in our precinct elections, and he is a problem solver with leadership skills and extensive travel experience.

Steve Woodall and his wife Fran have lived in LOEN since March of 2003, and they are the proud parents of five adult children, four grandchildren and two dogs. Mr. Woodall has degrees in business and history as well as an MBA from Houston Baptist University. He served as the Executive Vice President of Ron's Krispy Fried Chicken from 1972-1983, and he has, since 1984, served as President of Reliant Business Products. He is also currently President of Ron's Home Style Foods (Texas Kitchen Salads).

The Lakes on Eldridge North community association bylaws require that, during the time of development, the board of directors be comprised of three, developer appointed members. However, should the board find it desirable, they have the option of adding one or two members.

The current board chose to expand by adding two board members that represent homeowners. This will provide a smooth transition into a future all-homeowner board. Upon completion of development, all five board members will be elected by homeowners in their annual meeting.

Mr. Khwaja and Mr. Woodall both had expressed interest in joining the board of the HOA, and they were chosen based on their willingness to serve the best interests of LOEN. Ryko Development believes that they will do an excellent job in their new positions and looks forward to working with them.

Important Pool Information

Lonestar Pools is our new pool company. Please contact them for Pool Parties. Phone: 281-859-8667; Fax: 281-859-8333

When lifeguards are not on duty, the main pool is "swim at your own risk" except during routine cleaning days when no swimming is permitted.

The new pool, however, is not "swim at your own risk," and it will be closed from October to Memorial Day as the slide and play equipment require the supervision of a lifeguard.

**For Quality and Trust
Treat Yourself to a Long-Lasting
Stress-Reducing Massage or Bodywork
Session with a Nationally Certified Therapist!**

Siobhan Elizabeth Cassin, RMT



**Tel: 713-937-3535
Cell: 713-446-0933**

**Lakes On Eldridge North
Resident**

**Residential/Professional by
Appointment Days or Evenings**

**N
C
T
M
B**



**Special Interest
In Back/Neck
Pain and
Stress Relaxation**

**State and Nationally Certified in
Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork**

**How Much are you Paying to have
your Lawn Cut?**

Have your lawn professionally cut for just

\$22.00 * +tax for weekly service
on a standard size lot

**If you pay anything more than this,
you are paying too much!**

The following services are provided:

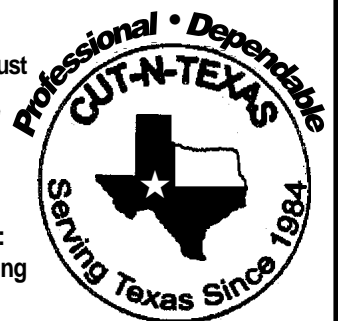
mowing • edging • blowing • weed eating

Monthly Invoicing

281-807-LAWN

Thursday Dates Available

*** 2 week written cancellation notice required**



Online Invoicing & Bill Pay

**"Innovative Designs
Insure Even Water Distribution"**



Water 'N Texas

Irrigation & Drainage • Repairs • Installation

**Quality Hunter & Rainbird Products
Head to Head Spacing
Swing Joints at ALL Sprinkler Heads
Hand Dug Trenches
Complete Two (2) Year Warranty on Labor
Standard Three (3) Year Warranty on Parts
Innovative Designs Insure Even Water Distribution**



Licensed Irrigator #7226

281-807-LAWN

Lakes on Eldridge North

Have You Been To The Library?

I was looking for things to do with my children and found the schedule for the Katherine Tyra Library, which is very close, right here on Clay road. (16719 Clay Road Houston, TX 77084 (281) 550-0885)

Check out the list of activities:

Preschool Storytime:

Tuesdays at 10:15 AM
Wednesdays at 2 PM

Toddler Storytime:

Wednesdays at 10:15 AM, 10:45 AM and 11:15 AM

Infant Storytime:

Tuesdays at 11:15 AM

Bedtime Storytime:

3rd Wednesday of the Month at 7 PM

Bear Creek Reader's Club

1st Wednesday of the Month at 7 PM

Special Services:

Meeting Room

Equipment:

26 Computers with Internet, MS Office, and Catalog access

2 Photocopiers

Opaque projector

Overhead projector

Microfiche reader/printer

Audiotape player

TV/VCR

Kurzweil Equipment with Scanner for the visually impaired

Fluoride Level Change

The fluoride level in our drinking water has changed to from 0.2 ppm to 0.4 ppm. The ideal amount is 0.7ppm for older children and 0.3 ppm for infants. Contact your pediatrician or dentist to see if fluoride supplementation is necessary.



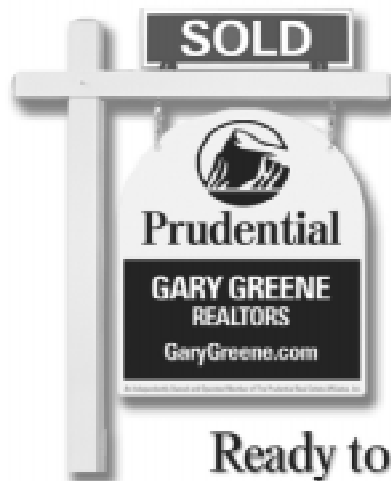
TANYA COLLINS
REALTOR®

Sales & Marketing Specialist

Direct: 713-703-1156
Home Office: 713-466-3259

Office: 281-890-4024
collinst@garygreene.com
www.GaryGreene.com

**We sell extraordinary homes
for extraordinary people.**



Like you.

Ready to sell your home?

Our exclusive, one-of-a-kind marketing programs go beyond traditional methods. They'll help position your home to be sold FAST, at the BEST PRICE with the LEAST HASSLE!

For all the details, call me today!

Extraordinary SERVICE. Extraordinary RESULTS.

Lakes on Eldridge North

Thyme Out for Gardening: Fire Ants and the Texas Two-Step

If you're not involved in a landscaping project this month, I hope you'll still make some time to get outside and putter in your garden. Consider replacing an insect prone shrub with something hardier, put in a few Narcissus bulbs, or sow a few wildflower seeds in a sunny spot in your flowerbed. The simple act of putting your hands in the soil is relaxing, and the cooler October weather will even make weeding a more pleasant task!

That pleasant, relaxing day in the garden loses its attraction rather quickly, however, when you have an encounter with the imported red fire ant, *Solenopsis invicta* Buren. If you've lived in Texas or elsewhere in the South for any length of time, chances are you've been stung by these aggressive ants more than once. If you're new to the area, expect to meet them very soon. In Spanish, they're known as "las hormigas bravas rojas" which makes them sound like tiny swashbuckling Zorros. Unfortunately, they are far from glamorous or heroic. Their bites and stings are at best uncomfortable and at worst, life threatening to people and animals. Medical related expenses for people and pets, pesticide expenses, and the loss of livestock, wildlife, crops, and equipment caused by imported red fire ants cost our economy an estimated \$300 million annually.

Red fire ants came to the United States from South America through the port in Mobile, Alabama in the 1930's. With few natural enemies in their new home, they quickly spread throughout the South infesting home landscapes, school yards, golf courses, agricultural fields, pastures, nature preserves, buildings, equipment and utility housings, and areas around bodies of water. In short, fire ants can be found in just about every county from the southern third of North Carolina across to the eastern two thirds of Texas. Despite the millions of dollars spent in research and pesticides over the past 60 plus years, imported red fire ants have eluded eradication; the emphasis is now on management and control.

There are numerous species of ants around our homes, and most of them are harmless and often beneficial, including species of native fire ants. Even imported red fire ants aren't all bad as they eat flea larvae, roach eggs, chinch bugs, and ticks. Unfortunately, the imported red fire ants' good qualities don't outweigh the problems they cause. And because the red fire ants seem to prefer sunny, open areas, our new neighborhood is especially attractive to them. So how do you know if you have imported red fire ants in your yard? Look for a mound of fluffy soil, especially after a rain. This mound will not have an opening in the center as the fire ants go in and out through

underground tunnels. If you disturb the mound, the ants will "boil" out of the mound and charge up any available vertical surface to attack anything within reach. Most native ants do not behave this way. Most native ants are also more uniform in size; the reddish-brown imported fire ants vary in size from about 1/8" to 1/4" long.

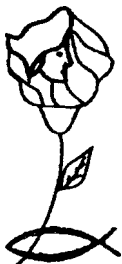
If you are stung, you'll know without a doubt that you have a fire ant mound nearby. Each ant can bite and sting repeatedly, and the venom in the sting causes a burning sensation. The burning sensation is usually followed by itching and the formation of a small white blister, although the reaction can vary from person to person. The blister is easily infected and can cause scarring if not properly treated. Because the fire ant venom is an alkaloid protein compound, the Texas Cooperative Extension Service recommends treating a sting with either a diluted bleach solution (half water, half bleach) or a paste of meat tenderizer and water within the first 15 minutes to ease the pain and stop the blister. Otherwise, you can treat stings with commercial insect bite products. Fire ant bites can cause serious allergic reactions in some people, so if you experience extensive swelling, chest pain, dizziness, nausea, hives, or shortness of breath call 911 or get to an emergency room immediately. Children often encounter fire ant mounds while playing so teach them about fire ants: encourage them to watch where they're stepping and explain possible allergic reactions to them.

Fire ants can also endanger the health of your pet as they rest or play in the yard. Young pets, older less mobile pets, pets with injuries and skin conditions, and any animal that is caged or cannot otherwise move away from a disturbed mound of ants are especially at risk. Pets are often stung near their eyes, nose, and other areas with less hair. Watch your pet closely when they are in the yard and if they are stung, move your pet away from the ants, brush the ants off as quickly as possible and consult your veterinarian if necessary. Do not try to wash the ants off with a water hose – they'll just hang on and keep stinging. Even though it's been 21 years, I'll never forget the time I let my energetic Black Lab out in the yard of my college duplex right after the neighbor had watered his half of the yard. The fire ants swarmed our yard in about 5 minutes and surrounded my dog as she retreated to a corner of the patio. It was a close call; fortunately, I was checking on her and was able to rescue her before she was stung!

So how do we control the fire ants in our yards? I remember my

(Continued on Page 10)

SPECIAL MAID SERVICES



Residential & Commercial Cleaning
Supplies & Equipment Furnished
Bonded

SAVE \$20!

New customers receive
\$5 OFF their first four cleanings.

281-589-2042

Bashans Painting



Commercial/Residential
Free Estimates

281-347-6702




281-731-3383 cell

- Interior & Exterior
- 20 Years Experience
- Hardiplank Installation
- Wood Replacement
- Pressure Washing
- Sheetrock Repair & Texturing
- Cabinet Painting
- Door Refinishing & Replacement
- Wallpaper Removal
- Custom Staining

References Available • Insured • No Payment Until Completion



TIM ZIIFLE

Broker Associate, ABR, MIRM, 
Cendant Mobility Relocation Specialist

CENTURY 21 "TOP PRODUCER" WITH OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE

POOL, SPA & PRESERVE LOT



12730 Waterside Way

FOR SALE
\$510,000

5903 Saratoga Springs

FOR SALE
\$349,900
or
FOR LEASE
\$3,600/MO.

CORNER & GREENBELT LOT



LARGE, POOL-READY REAR YARD



12431 Calico Falls

FOR SALE
\$315,000

5310 Summerland Ridge Ct.

FOR SALE
\$300,000

CORNER LOT ON CUL-DE-SAC



THE MORTON GROUP
5630 N. ELDRIDGE, SUITE 100
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77041



NEED TO DETERMINE YOUR HOME'S MARKET VALUE?

Call Me For A Free Comprehensive Market Analysis

"I'm right in the neighborhood at Eldridge & Tanner"

"I specialize in Lakes On Eldridge & Lakes on Eldridge North"

"I am a Lakes on Eldridge Homeowner"

Direct: (832) 457-1989

www.har.com/timziifle

www.realtor.com/houston/ziifle

E-mail: tcziifle@msn.com



MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE
MLS



Lakes on Eldridge North

Thyme Out - (Continued from Page 8)

grandmother mixing all sorts of toxic concoctions to pour on fire ant mounds in her yard in the 1960's, yet the mounds just kept coming back. The research (and our environmental concern) has drastically improved since then. Today, the Texas Cooperative Extension Service recommends a method they call the Texas Two-Step. Step one is the spreading of an ant bait over your entire yard, and step two is the individual treatment of "nuisance" mounds which are near areas such as patios, foundations, and other spots with lots of foot traffic.

Evaluate your yard before you start any treatments. According to Extension publications, if you have fewer than 4 imported fire ant mounds in a ¼ acre lot and you have a healthy population of native ants that can provide competition to keep the fire ants in check, then you may only need individual mound treatments. Some experts are concerned that by spreading bait all over our yards, we'll kill too many beneficial native ants and encourage the spread of imported fire ants. Others feel that because fire ants are so voracious, they'll consume most of the bait before the native ants can even get to it.


The key to successful fire ant management using the Texas Two-Step Method is timing. If you decide to broadcast bait over your yard and flowerbeds, the bait should be applied every 6 to 12 months during the time the ants are most actively foraging for food. The ants will take the bait back to the mound where depending on the active ingredient, it will slowly destroy the colony by killing the ants or preventing them from reproducing. In Harris County, the best months to apply bait are April or May and September or October. For best results, use fresh bait from a previously unopened container and

apply to dry ground when no rain is expected for at least 8 hours after application. For any individual mounds you decide to treat, use a different pesticide than the one you used to treat the entire yard and apply the treatment carefully so that you do not disturb the mound. There are many effective products on the market that can tackle the fire ants in your yard, including several newer organic treatments. When dealing with any kind of pesticide, it is extremely important to read labels, follow the instructions to the letter, and wear the appropriate protective gear. Do not use more of a product than is recommended and avoid spreading granules on sidewalks, driveways or other areas where they could wash into creeks and bayous. If you have herbs and vegetables in your landscape, be aware that many products are not approved for use around edible plants. Also keep children and pets out of the treatment area for the recommended time period.

Some gardeners prefer not to use any kind of pesticides and use mechanical means to control fire ants. One method, pouring 3 gallons of boiling water on a mound, has a reasonable success rate on fresh mounds. However, you must be careful not to burn yourself or surrounding plants. Some gardeners prefer the shovel method, especially for mounds around edible plants. Wearing long gloves, coat the handle and blade area of a shovel with powder to keep the ants from climbing, dig up an entire mound, and dump it in hot soapy water to kill the ants. This method is also fairly successful when used on fresh mounds.

When it comes to fire ant control, I prefer an integrated pest management approach. This essentially means that I use the least

(Continued on Page 11)




Unique Gymnastics Experience for Boys and Girls

Preschool Classes -- 18 month & up

- Recreational • Birthday Parties • Teams
- Cheerleading • Parents Night Out

11875 W. Little York Rd. #1205 (713) 466-0906

TANNER LAKES ANIMAL CLINIC
In Your Neighborhood!



Only The Best For Your Best Friend

- ✓ Ultrasound
- ✓ Telemedicine
- ✓ Blood Pressures
- ✓ Radiology (x-rays)
- ✓ Tonopen (glaucoma)
- ✓ Dental cleanings
- ✓ Blood Pressures

Kenneth Malinowski, D.V.M.

- Dental Grading at no charge! Dental Estimates!
- Ask about our Shelter Adoption Package at no charge!
- Come by anytime for a tour and meet Dr. Malinowski!

Office Hours
Mon, Wed, Fri 7am - 6pm
Tues, Thurs 7am - 7pm
Saturdays 8am - 1pm
713/937-4484

Custom Outdoors

Let Us Bring Your Outdoors To Life!!

Swimming Pools * Waterfalls * Spas * Decks
Shade Arbors * Flagstone * Outdoor Kitchens

281-858-9696

CHECK OUT OUR ONLINE PHOTO ALBUM

www.customoutdoors.com

the Pool Nanny

Swimming Pool Maintenance Weekly & Vacation

281-858-4868

Thyme Out - (Continued from Page 10)

toxic method first and work "up the scale" until I find the method that takes care of the problem with the lowest impact on the environment. Before I used anything in our yard to control the fire ants, I checked with some wildlife experts to find a product that would not harm pets, lizards, toads, birds, or butterflies. Everyone I talked with felt that Amdro met the criteria and I've had success with it as a bait in our yard for several years. I do not spread it near our herbs and I use a citrus oil product as a mound drench when necessary.

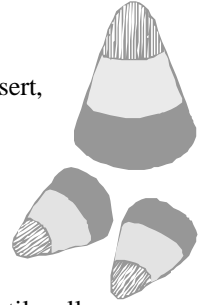
Regardless of what products you choose to use in your yard, fire ant research has shown that control is best achieved when everyone in the neighborhood or community treats their yards at the same time. Fire ants from untreated areas can re-infest a treated yard rather quickly unless control is gained over a wider area. At the very least, encourage your immediate neighbors to treat their yards when you do and you should have longer lasting results.

Fire ant control is an important topic for those of us who live in the "fire ant belt" and if you would like more information, including specific product recommendations, see <http://fireant.tamu.edu> on the Internet. This Texas A & M web site has a large selection of downloadable publications from the Extension Service and will keep you up to date on the latest research. Until next month, happy gardening!

By Lisa M. Rawl, Harris County Master Gardener

Candy Corn Popcorn Balls

¼ cup (1/2 stick) butter
1 package (10 ½ oz) miniature Marshmallows
1 package (4-serving size) JELL-O Gelatin dessert,
any flavor
12 cups popped popcorn
1 cup candy corn



Microwave butter and marshmallows in large microwavable bowl on HIGH 1 ½ to 2 minutes or until marshmallows are puffed. Stir in gelatin until well mixed.

Pour marshmallow mixture over popcorn and candy corn in large bowl. Mix lightly until well coated. Shape into 15 balls or other shapes with greased or wet hands. Wrap each ball in plastic wrap and tie with raffia or ribbon if desired.

Business Classified Ads

Business Classifieds are \$45.00. Please contact Donna Sommer, djsommer@aol.com, 832-237-4684.

Need Computer help?



Residential Services !

832-467-9509

Biz Tech Solutions is now offering Residential Services to Lakes on Eldridge North and Lakes on Eldridge. Call

- Computer Repairs and Upgrades
- Wireless Networking
- Firewalls and Security
- Internet Filtering
- Network Installations
- Virus Eradication
- Virus Protection
- Troubleshooting
- Server Setup
- Excel and Access Development
- Web Sites and E-Commerce
- Purchasing Advice
- Custom Applications
- Database Development
- Did we miss anything?

Biz Tech Solutions is a Computer and Networking Solutions provider for the Small Business markets. We are offering residential services to Lakes on Eldridge and Lakes on Eldridge North

Call Today for a free Phone Assessment. There is no obligation.

Regards,
Brad Barnes

832-467-9509
www.BizTechSolutions.INFO

Lakes on Eldridge North

College Funds and Asset Allocation

Most investors know that they need to stabilize their portfolios as they approach retirement, but not many understand why. The same concept of stabilization for retirement withdrawals over 20 or more years is even more crucial for college funding where withdrawals are spread over 4 to 5 years. Retirement assets are not typically depleted after retirement whereas college funds are in most cases. It is the fear of outliving your retirement assets over more precise college funding targets.

In the 8 to 10 years before a child enters college, the uncertainty of the stock market makes the need to stabilize a child's college funds imperative. The reallocation of equities to bonds is not done all at once; rather it should be a gradual shift over time so that you avoid "timing" the stock and bond market peaks and valleys. Another reason that you need to stabilize a portfolio is that during the withdrawal period, downside of loss exceeds the upside potential of a similar size gain. This logic is supported in the example below where withdrawals of \$13,000 are made from two college funds, both having the same \$52,000 balance.

Example #1					Example #2				
Aggressive					Conservative				
Age	Withdrawal	Beginning Balance	Ending Balance	Portfolio Return	Age	Withdrawal	Beginning Balance	Ending Balance	Portfolio Return
18	\$0	\$52,000	\$47,300	-9.0%	18	\$0	\$52,000	\$50,760	-2.3%
19	(\$13,000)	\$34,300	\$30,000	-10.0%	19	(\$13,000)	\$45,760	\$43,930	-4.0%
20	(\$13,000)	\$17,888	\$20,571	15.0%	20	(\$13,000)	\$30,800	\$35,569	15.0%
21	(\$13,000)	\$7,571	\$7,268	-4.0%	21	(\$13,000)	\$22,569	\$20,530	-9.0%
22	(\$13,000)	(\$5,732)	(\$5,477)	-13.0%	22	(\$13,000)	\$7,538	\$5,284	-10.0%
Annualized Return					Annualized Return				
0.43%					0.38%				

**These hypothetical examples are for illustrative purposes only and are not intended to represent any specific investment. The examples do not consider any costs associated with investing. Investments involve risk and you may incur a profit or loss. Seeking higher rates of return generally involves higher risks.*

Interestingly, even though the annualized returns for these two college funds are almost identical, the family with the "Aggressive" portfolio will have to pay for the last semester out of pocket, while the family with the "Conservative" portfolio ends up with a small amount of money left. How can this happen, you ask? The answer comes in the timing and the variation in the returns. In a portfolio supporting withdrawals, early negative returns have a greater negative impact than negative returns in later years. Reverse the order of returns and you can see the results in the next example:

Example #3					Example #4				
Aggressive					Conservative				
Age	Withdrawal	Beginning Balance	Ending Balance	Portfolio Return	Age	Withdrawal	Beginning Balance	Ending Balance	Portfolio Return
18	\$0	\$52,000	\$47,300	-9.0%	18	\$0	\$52,000	\$50,760	-2.3%
19	(\$13,000)	\$34,300	\$30,000	-10.0%	19	(\$13,000)	\$45,760	\$43,930	-4.0%
20	(\$13,000)	\$17,888	\$20,571	15.0%	20	(\$13,000)	\$30,800	\$35,569	15.0%
21	(\$13,000)	\$7,571	\$7,268	-4.0%	21	(\$13,000)	\$22,569	\$20,530	-9.0%
22	(\$13,000)	(\$5,732)	(\$5,477)	-13.0%	22	(\$13,000)	\$7,538	\$5,284	-10.0%
Annualized Return					Annualized Return				
0.43%					0.38%				

(Continued on Page 13)



LOE Resident & Realtor

Office: (713) 722-6867

Cell: (713) 703-8313

www.kayhorsch.com

**Coldwell Banker
United, Realtors®**



CALL KAY HORSCH

GRI, Realtor®

"Because Every Move Matters"

Attention Sellers & Neighbors

Are you familiar with Certified Home Marketing Specialist? The CBU sales associates who have taken this course show a 6% - 14% increase in the selling price of properties over what they believe the property would have sold for without applying the CHMS concepts.

Should you have a desire or need to learn more about my pricing & staging skills, please call me today!

Lakes on Eldridge North

College Funds - (Continued from Page 12)

While the annualized returns are identical to the first example, the ending balances vary significantly. Now the Aggressive investor has a semester's worth of tuition left while the Conservative investor will be under funded by a small amount. Since the returns are identical in both examples, we know that if we had simply started with \$52,000 and not taken withdrawals the ending balances for the Conservative and Aggressive investor would have been the same in both examples.

Of course, if you **knew** when the market was going to be up or down, this would not be problem since you would be out of the market when it went down.

In 18 or so years you have to save for your child's college, you need to begin stabilizing the portfolio around age 8-10. In addition to using intermediate term bonds, we would suggest you use uncorrelated or low correlated investments. Investments typically thought of as having a low correlation to the U.S. stock market and the traditional U.S. bond market include real estate (through investments in Real Estate Investment Trusts, or REITs), foreign stocks and bonds (especially emerging market, although these are more risky and may include additional currency and country risk), Treasury Inflation Protected Securities (TIPS) and alternative investments. However, most 529 Plans do not offer these types of investments. Using a self-directed Coverdell (or Education) IRA in addition to a 529 Plan can provide access to these type of investment options.

As college approaches, additional stability can be added through supplementing with short-term bonds (a short-duration bond portfolio) and stable value investments.

You should keep in mind that when moving investments from an aggressive to a conservative posture, it does not mean the market value of the investment will not fluctuate. Bonds are not risk free. While bonds tend to be less volatile than stocks, the market value of bonds does fluctuate due to changes in current interest rates. Generally, when interest rates rise, the value of bonds – especially long-term bonds – decreases. Bonds are also subject to other risks, such as credit and inflation risks.



Window Makeovers

~Giving Your Window A New Look~

Professional custom draperies & bedding at an affordable price.

In-house workroom cuts middleman cost. Use your fabrics or choose from our selection.

Schedule your FREE in-home estimate to see how we can transform your window into an artistic design to accentuate any room.

custom designs & consultation by
Silvia Antonio
Telephone: 281-630-8537
Mobile: 281-630-8895

BBB Gold Star Award
2002-2003

BBB
MEMBER
Greater Houston

South-West Sprinkler Company

Northwest area's
#1 Irrigation Company!
30+ Installations in LEN!

Now offering
**Free
UPGRADES!**

Installation/Repair
Drainage Specialist
281-861-6171
www.south-westsprinklerco.com


Robbie Moore, Owner
Northwest Resident for 20 years

Rainbird Select
Contractor
LI #7019

MasterCard
VISA

180 days
same as
cash!


Digger says,
"Ya'll Quit Draggin
that hose!"



The Oakwood School

The area's BEST value in early childhood education!

And
VIP Kids
Before and After School Fun!



Ages 6 weeks - 6th grade
6:00 AM - 6:30 PM
NCI Accepted

Since 1989
5630 N. Eldridge Pkwy
713.937.8333

Lakes on Eldridge North

Go Batty With Spooky Halloween Cookies

They're creepy and they're kooky, mysterious and spooky...they're cookies! Halloween adds some spook to your kitchen with fun Easy-Bake Oven recipes.

For at-home Halloween parties, or as a special treat for families to make and enjoy together, easy-to-prepare cookies-decorated to look like bats, spider webs and candy corn-can be a fun and delicious way to celebrate the spirit of the holiday.

Creepy Cookies and Brownies

Ingredients:

- 1 package of Easy-Bake Sugar Cookie and Chocolate Cookie Mixes
- 1 package of Easy-Bake Chocolate Brownie and Blonde Brownie Mixes
- 1 canister white frosting
- 1 canister chocolate frosting
- Blue, red and green food coloring
- White gel frosting
- Orange, yellow and white crystal sugar



Directions:

1. Bake and cool Easy-Bake cookies and brownies by following the instructions on the package.
2. Cut the cookies and brownies into Halloween shapes.
3. Frost desserts based on the theme: Black frosting for bats is made using 5 drops blue food coloring, 1½ tsp. red food coloring and 1½ tsp. green food coloring. Candy corn design is made from yellow, orange and white sugar crystals.

Peel, Inc.

Printing & Publishing

We currently publish newsletters
for the following subdivisions:

Berkshire
Cypress Mill
Fairfield
Harvest Bend, The Village
Lakes on Eldridge
Lakes on Eldridge North
Steeplechase
Summerwood
Village Creek
Willowbridge
Winchester Country
Wortham Village



*Publishing community newsletters
in the Houston area since 1991*

To advertise in one of our newsletters, call one of our
friendly salespeople:

Donna Sommer
Wortham Resident
Kelly Peel
Sales Rep
Nicole Peel
Sales Rep
Jeri Deyoe
Fairfield Resident

832-237-4684
dsommer@PEELinc.com
512-589-5471
kelly@PEELinc.com
512-589-3727
npeel@PEELinc.com
713-569-5342
jdeyoe@PEELinc.com

806-385-6444

www.PEELinc.com

Lakes on Eldridge North

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.

At no time will any source be allowed to use the Lakes on Eldridge North 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 Lakes on Eldridge North Newsletter is exclusively for the private use of Lakes on Eldridge North residents only.

**For up-to-date announcements and information
check our neighborhood website:
WWW.LOENHOA.COM**

DONNA SOMMER
Sales Representative

Res. 832-237-4684
Mob. 281-788-2078
Fax 281-477-7311
dsommer@PEELinc.com

Peel, Inc.
Printing and Publishing

P.O. Box 886
200 E. Waylon Jennings Blvd.
Littlefield, Texas 79339

PH. 888-687-6444
Fax 806-385-5234



THE Treehouse

Party Center and Play Place

- Birthdays
- Special Events
- Food
- Drink
- Music



5830A Hwy 6 N
Houston, TX 77084
281-463-6485

Teenage Jobseekers

The following young people are interested in making a little extra money. If you would like to be included, removed, or updated in the next issue, please contact Jillian Barkley, 832-243-0000 or e-mail jbarkley@houston.rr.com (LOEN) *All information must be received by the 10th of the month.*

Babysitting
Pet/Plant Sitter
Lawn Care
Car Washing
Window Washing
Power Washing Driveways
Website Design/PC Assist.

Michelle, 18	•	713-937-0727(LOE)
Eileen, 16	•	713-937-0727(LOE)
Courtney, 13	•	713-937-0288(LOE)
Craig, 14	•	713-937-0288(LOE)
Sage, 16	•	713-896-4933(LOE)
George, 16	•	713-467-0932(LOE)
Delania, 13	•	713-849-2812(LOE)
Gabby, 16***	•	713-849-4596(LOE)
Chelsea, 19	•	SUMMER ONLY 713-983-7252(LOE)
Chinyere, 14	•	713-856-9495(LOE)
Jessica, 17	•	713-849-3692(LOE)
Katie, 16	•	713-896-7941(LOEN)
Patrick, 14	•	713-937-0727(LOE)
Ryan, 14	•	713-896-794(LOEN)
Kelechi, 13	•	713-856-9495(LOE)
Benny, 12	•	713-476-3750(LOE)
Jared, 17	•	832-467-9336(LOE)
Ryan, 17	•	832-243-9893(LOEN)
Katherine, 15**	•	832-243-9893(LOEN)
Jessica, 13	•	713-937-1383(LOEN)
Erica, 12	•	713-937-1383(LOEN)
Brianna, 10	•	713-937-1383(LOEN)
Katie, 17	•	713-983-7717(LOE)
Thomas, 11	•	713-856-7372(LOEN)
Steven, 14	•	713-856-5666(LOEN)
James, 16	•	713-466-8298(LOEN)
Courtney, 12	•	713-493-0288(LOEN)
Tom, 14	•	713-466-6878(LOE)
Elisse, 16	•	713-896-9495(LOEN)
Leslie, 11**	•	832-467-4842(LOEN)
Erika, 12**	•	713-856-7192 (LOE)
Greta, 19	•	713-896-4170 (LOEN)
Billy, 19	•	713-896-9495 (LOEN)

*First Aid Certified with Boy Scouts

** Red Cross Babysitting Program

***Fluent in Spanish

Beginner Swim Instructor

Katie, age 16 713-896-7941 (LOEN)

Piano Lessons

Idil, age 15 713-896-1833 (LOE)

Guitar Lessons

Katherine, 15 ** 832-243-9893 (LOEN)

#1 In LAKES ON ELDRIDGE SALES

★ LAKES ON ELDRIDGE HOMEOWNER ★

STEVE HARDCASTLE



RE/MAX Westside Realtors



281-925-3047

www.stevehardcastle.com

- **Broker; Relocation Expert; Over 20 years experience**
- **Certified Residential Specialist (held by only 5% of Realtors)**
- **RE/MAX Westside TOP PRODUCER for 15 years ('89 - '03)**
- **Top Twenty RE/MAX agents in Texas (out of 4500 agents)**
- **Chairman's Award; Hall of Fame, Lifetime Achievement Award**
- **Top Twenty Realtors in Houston-out of 10,000 HAR members (Per Houston Business Journal)**
- **Top 1% of all Realtors in North America (1989-2003)**

Peel, Inc.

P.O. Box 886
Littlefield, Texas 79339

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Littlefield, Texas 79339
Permit #59

Voice 806-385-6444

www.PEELinc.com