

The Ranch Review

www.riataranch.net

April 2006

Volume 1, Issue 2

Official Publication of Riata Ranch Homeowners Association

Spring Community Garage Sale

Saturday, April 29

8:00 a.m.

Rain or Shine

It's time for our annual Garage Sale – so clean out your garages and attics and make some money! There will need to be at least 100 families registered and paid by April 15th for Riata Ranch to have its garage sale (per HOA rules). Otherwise the garage sale will have to be cancelled.

There are 2 ways to register: either email your registration information (name, street address and home phone number) to RiataRanchGarageSale@yahoo.com or call Cameron Newcomb at 281-304-6118.

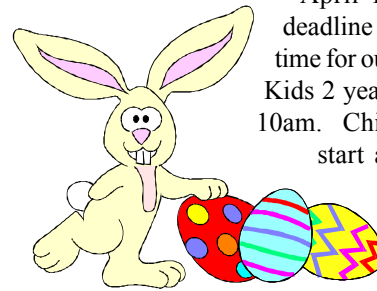
You can register on-line or by phone any time from now up through April 15th. There will also be two in-person registration sessions. They will be on April 8th and April 15th. They will both be at the pool area. At this time you will pay your \$5 registration fee (if you haven't already), get handouts on how to have a successful garage sale, pick up your Garage Sale sign and find our any last minute details. The registration fee covers the cost of advertising.

Important Dates:

- **Upon receiving this letter** –Registration begins
- **Now through April 15th** – On-line and telephone registration (see info above)
- **April 8th, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.** – In-person registration at the pool (see info above)
- **April 15th** – Registration deadline
- **April 15th, 10:30 – 11:00 a.m.** – Final chance to register. In-person registration at the pool. This follows the Easter Egg Hunt which is from 10:00 to 10:30am.
- **April 29th, 8:00 a.m.** – Garage Sale

FYI: The HOA rules state that private garage sales are not allowed. Community garage sales are okay as long as they are a community sponsored event and meets the minimum participants requirements.

Get Ready for the Riata Ranch EASTER EGG HUNT!!



April 15th is more than just the TAX deadline in Riata Ranch. It will also be time for our annual EASTER EGG HUNT!!

Kids 2 years and under can start hunting at 10am. Children 3 and 4 years of age can start at 10:10am, and children 5 and

6 years old can start at 10:20.

The festivities are being created and managed by your events committee and will take place by the pool house. There will

be plenty of associated activities so bring the kids and let the hunt begin!!!

Don't forget, you can always contribute your help to the Events Committee or communicate with them directly by posting your message at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/riataranchevents/>.

Join the Fight Against Cancer

April 7 and April 8

Cypress, Texas - Join the fight against cancer and participate in the 2006 American Cancer Society's Relay For Life of Cy-Fair this April.

This unique overnight fund-raising effort, set for 6 p.m. April 7 to 6 a.m. April 8 at Cy-Fair College, 9191 Barker Cypress Road, includes a survivor/caregiver recognition walk, a luminaria lighting ceremony and a variety of entertainment for all ages.

For participation, donation or event information go to www.acsevents.org/tx/relay/cyfair or contact Catherine Unger at 713-706-5646 or via e-mail at Catherine.unger@cancer.org.



View *The Ranch Review*
each month on-line at
www.PEELinc.com

Riata Ranch

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Emergency

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Sheriff | 713-221-6000 |
| Fire Department | 281-855-1110 |
| Cy-Fair Medical Center | 281-890-4285 |
| Memorial City Hospital | 713-932-3000 |
| Poison Control | 800-222-1222 |

Schools

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Cypress Fairbanks ISD | 281-897-4000 |
| Birkes Elementary | 281-345-3300 |
| Lamkin Elementary | 281-897-4775 |
| Arnold Middle School | 281-897-4700 |
| Cy-Fair High | 281-897-4600 |
| Cy-Falls High | 281-856-1000 |
| Cy-Fair College | 281-290-3200 |

Utilities

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| HCMUD #196 | |
| Billing | 281-579-4500 |
| Repairs | 281-398-8211 |
| Centerpoint Electric | 713-207-2222 |
| Centerpoint Entex Gas | 713-659-2111 |
| SBC | 800-464-7928 |
| Warner Cable | 713-462-9000 |
| Waste Mgt | 713-686-6666 |
| HOA, SCS Mgt | 281-463-1777 |
| United States Post Office | 800-275-8777 |

Library

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Cy-Fair College Library | 281-290-3210 |
|-------------------------------|--------------|

Newsletter Publisher

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Peel, Inc. | 512-989-8905 |
| Advertising | advertising@Peelinc.com, 512-989-8905 |

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 Fax 512-989-8946

Playgroup

The Riata Ranch Playgroup has some fun activities scheduled for April! We are always looking for new moms and preschoolers to join! In March we went to see Curious George at the new theater on Spring-Cypress and 290. The kids enjoyed watching George's antics (so similar to their own!) and eating popcorn. Everyone got a free poster. Our scheduled time for the Oil Ranch was rained out, so only a few of us made it. We will go again on Wednesday, April 5. They have added some new play areas, and we had lots of fun! We enjoyed snow cones, chasing ducks, and being chased by goats! So many activities and open space, it will keep the kids busy all day.

Our next Mom's Night Out is Friday, April 21. Please contact Amber Pine for more information: 713-409-2630 or boymeetsgirl@juno.com.



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Please support the businesses that advertise in the Riata Ranch Community Newsletter. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all residents to receive a newsletter at no charge. No homeowners association funds are used to produce or mail the newsletters. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our Sales Office at 512-989-8905 or advertising@PEELinc.com for ad information and pricing.



Fellowship of Houston



Know a Christian or two who drives you crazy? Been making your own list of encounters with people who mean well, but...just rub you the wrong way? Listen in as James Scarborough shares several examples of irritating things about some people. Join us at Fellowship of Houston for this humorous—and painfully honest—five week teaching series. Let's take a deeper look at what God says a Christian life should really be like.

"Christians Who Think Real Problems Can Be Solved With A Trite Slogan"

"Christians Who Are All About Rules"

"Christians Who Are Hypocrites"

"Christians Who Are Intolerant"

"Christians Who Are Bible Thumpers"

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Fellowship of Houston

Sundays @ 10:30am

on Telge Rd. just one mile south of 290



"Whether you're new to this 'church thing' or happen to be a committed Christ-follower, I want to invite you to attend our worship service. You'll enjoy lively music and a message that will actually make a difference in your life on Monday. Dress casually and make yourself at home. Bring your kids and teens...they love our fast paced programs." —Pastor James Scarborough



www.FellowshipofHouston.org

Riata Ranch

Help Us Report Suspicious Activity!!!!

You may remember this request from the March newsletter. Since then, the recreation area has once again been vandalized and your money has been used for the repairs. Lights in the B-B-Q area have been broken, water pipes busted and water left running, literally sending your investment down the drain. So, we need your help! Please report any suspicious activity by calling 713-221-6000 and tell the dispatcher that you are a Riata Ranch Resident.

In addition, the Board is taking further security measures. We will be soliciting bids for security cameras to monitor all public areas that have been vandalized. If you are a resident in the security business, we want to consider you for this opportunity. Please contact SCS for details.

The perpetrators may live in our community. Whoever they may be, residents or non-residents, once we have a picture, we may ask your help in identifying the criminals. We will publish the pictures and ask for your confidential feedback.

In cooperation with the Harris County Sheriff's Department, we must take action against this small element that is costing us significant repeated expense. When the perpetrators are identified, your Board is committed to prosecuting them to the fullest extent of the law.

So please keep your eyes open and report anything suspicious.

Attention Park Users

For those groups who are using the park for football practice, baseball practice and such, PLEASE BE ADVISED:

We know it is probably a little inconvenient, but it would be a lot safer for all the residents if you utilized the pool parking lot instead of stringing out along Riata Ranch Blvd.

When you park north of Vaquero Way, the lanes narrow. When residents are traveling south on Riata Ranch, they have to get in the

other lane to get around parked cars. Due to the curve, this is dangerous because oncoming traffic is not visible.

If you must, park on Riata Ranch, but PLEASE stay south of Vaquero Way where the road widens. Plans are in the works to rectify the parking issue and will be discussed at the annual homeowners meeting.

Thank you for understanding and helping us to make Riata Ranch as safe as possible.

Classified Ads

Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Riata Ranch residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail editor@riatranch.net.

Business classifieds (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$45, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales @ 512-989-8905 or advertising@PEELinc.com.



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Barbeque Parties

We are working hard to maintain it's appearance of the B-B-Q area. It is a great place to have an event!! And don't forget, the area includes a SAND VOLLEYBALL COURT and HORSESHOE PITS.

To reserve the B-B-Q area, call SCS Management at 713-463-1777 and ask for Diana or Ginger.



Since the restrooms are in the pool area, if you need access to the restrooms, you will need to schedule a lifeguard through Greater Houston Pool Management at 713-771-POOL. We realize how inconvenient this is and are working on a possible resolution.

Since this article was last published, we have started the bidding process that will, in the end, resolve the restroom access issue. As always, we will keep you posted on the progress.

What Can be Done with the Entrance at Cypress – North Houston?

Recommendations have been made to improve the look of the Cypress–North Houston entrance. Although we all want that entrance to more closely resemble the other entrances, there are a few reasons why we should not make that much of an investment just yet:

1. There has been a land dispute among developers in which every inch of land is questioned. You may notice that one of the planters around the columns at the north entrance has a very odd shape. That is due to having to move it a couple of feet as a result of the dispute. It seems that, in the last few weeks, some resolution has been reached, but we are still cautious about investing until we are sure.
2. Cypress - North Houston is going to go through to Queenston. As part of the original development plan, there will eventually be two more lanes placed on the north side of the existing columns. The time-line has been changed a couple of times, moving up and then back again. This has made us even more cautious about investing your money into the look of that entrance.
3. The Barker-Cypress road widening continues. Until that work is complete and the entrance is clearly out of harms way, any major investment just doesn't make sense.

All of that being said, we have made some changes to that entrance in the short term. Considering these issues, it is not time to do the full blown signage, but a better landscaping effort is underway and will be maintained.

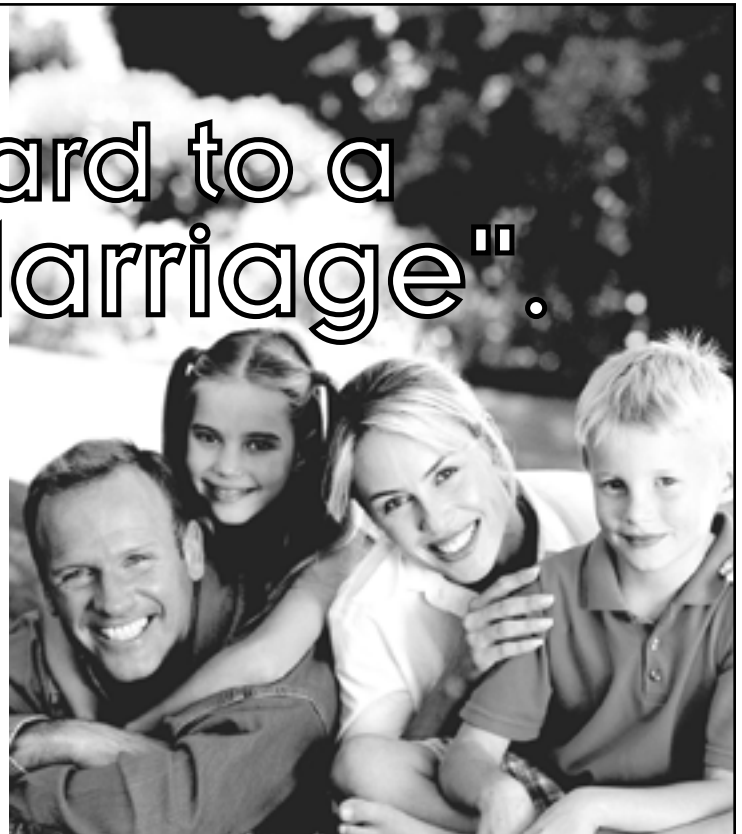
Don't miss Dr. Mark and Laura Shook as they continue their Family First series

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Sundays at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
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832.875.2520 - www.cofonline.org



At Community of Faith, we put Family First

Riata Ranch

Vacation Watch

At your request, the Harris County Sheriff's Department will put your house on VACATION WATCH. Just go to www.riataranch.net and look for the Vacation Watch form in the FORMS and DOCS section.

Your completed form will need to be submitted to the Sheriff's Department 7 days prior to departure, or just call 713-221-6000.

Riata Ranch Welcomes Strollerfit@!!

Your Riata Ranch HOA has been working with StrollerFit to bring their unique exercise program to our community and make it available for our resident moms. StrollerFit shows new moms with children 6 weeks to 4 years, how to turn their strollers into portable fitness machines. Moms can exercise with their baby, while building connections with other moms to last a lifetime!

We are glad to announce that the StrollerFit program will be available to our resident moms on **Tuesdays and Thursdays** beginning **April 18th** at **8:30am** in the park.

We hope that you find the local availability of this program beneficial and we are always open to any suggestion of other programs that may benefit our residents. We welcome your feedback.

What's Going on Around Cy-Fair College?

Admissions and Financial Aid Sessions Set

Cy-Fair College will hold two high school student and parent information sessions in the College Center Conference Center rooms 152 and 153. This semester's last general admissions information session set at 7 p.m. and a general financial aid information session set at 8 p.m. will be presented in English April 12 and in Spanish April 13. Call 281-290-3200 for details.

Free Tax Preparation Assistance Available

Free tax assistance is available at the Cy-Fair College Branch Library, located at 9191 Barker Cypress Road, with AARP volunteers from noon to 4 p.m. every Wednesday and Thursday through April 13 in the library, room 131. Taxes will be filed electronically. For information on what documentation to bring, go to <http://cfclibrary.nhmccd.edu> and click on free tax assistance under news and activities.

Barker-Cypress Construction Update

The Barker-Cypress road construction project remains on course to be completed by June 1st. We are currently unaware of any changes to the timeline and continue to see significant progress.

We will continue to keep you informed as the project moves forward.

JOB OPPORTUNITY!!

This is an opportunity to work for a team-oriented company utilizing your amazing customer service and sales abilities! We are a progressive Northwest Houston Company seeking the best Houston has to offer!

Ideal candidates are as follows:

- ☛ must have articulate, professional & effective communication skills
- ☛ must have 4 - 5+ years of sales experience
- ☛ property management, real estate & automotive dealership experience is a HUGE plus
- ☛ must be a team player with a lot of focus, problem solving skills & not be afraid to sell
- ☛ answer between 60 - 80 incoming calls daily
- ☛ place approximately 20 - 40 outbound calls daily to existing customers
- ☛ suggest information about other products & services we provide; cross-sell; up-sell

Compensation:

- ☛ \$28,000 to \$32,000 annually, based on experience for full-time
- ☛ \$15.00 per hour for part-time

Contact: To submit your resume, e-mail lisac@gabp.com or call 713-744-7895.

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Teenage Job Seekers

As mentioned in the March newsletter, a recent review of our TEENAGE JOB SEEKERS column revealed that some of those listed were no longer job seekers or teenagers. So, we are asking those of you who are TEENAGE JOB SEEKERS to fill out a new form and send it to The Ranch Review, care of SCS Management. You will need to have your parent's signature on the form before your information will be published.

If you have filled out a new form since the March newsletter, it is not necessary to do it again. We will begin publishing the list in the May newsletter.

We hope to have your form turned in soon and get that extra money coming in!!

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Teenage Job Seekers

Please place my name on the TEENAGE JOB SEEKERS list in the RANCH REVIEW.

Signature _____

Please check appropriate boxes:

- Baby-sitting
- Pet Care
- House/Plant Care
- Lawn Care

Name _____

Address _____

Age _____ Phone _____

I give my permission for my child's name and phone number to be entered in THE RANCH REVIEW as a TEENAGE JOB SEEKER

Parent's Signature _____

Clip and mail to: The Ranch Review
c/o SCS management
7170 Cherry Park Drive
Houston, TX 77095

Street Light Out?

Don't drive around in the dark! Report it. It's easy. Just call 713-207-2222 and list the following:

- The pole number, which is stenciled on the pole
- The nature of the problem; completely out, flickering, etc.
- Location of the pole, such as the nearest street corner.

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Riata Ranch Pool Rules

In our March newsletter, we described our renewed focus on safety and the fun, family environment that this year's pool season will bring. With that renewed commitment in mind, here is a review of the POOL RULES. Please take the time to review the rules with those members of your family that enjoy our facility and let's make this season enjoyable for everyone.

1. The lifeguard on duty is in charge at all times and will have the final authority for the enforcement of pool rules.
2. American Red Cross Guidelines will be followed for rain/thunder/lightning.
3. Residents must have current pool tags and must accompany guests at all times.
4. There is zero tolerance on abusive, crude and/or vulgar language.
5. No running, excessive horseplay, beach balls, Frisbees, inner tubes or rafts are permitted in the pool area.
6. Glass containers, alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and chewing gum are not allowed in the pool area.
7. Proper swim attire is required (no cutoffs).
8. Children 5 years of age and younger may use the baby pool. An adult must accompany these children at all times. **Plastic elastic pants are required for non-potty trained children.**
9. Children under 10 years of age must be accompanied by a person at least 18 years or older. Close supervision of children

under 10 years of age is required. Children under the age of 10 may visit the pool by themselves if they have passed a swim test administered by the lifeguards.

10. No pets are permitted in the pool area, with the exception of Seeing Eye dogs.
11. Anyone on the pool premises during the hours/days the pool is closed will be considered to be trespassing and may be prosecuted accordingly.

The lifeguard has full and final authority on all matters concerning the pool. Infractions to pool rules will result in disciplinary action. Disciplinary action may include time-out or the suspension of pool privileges from one (1) day up to and including the remainder of the pool season.



Until the 1700s, ballerinas wore long, heavy skirts, tight corsets and heeled slippers—all of which limited their ability to jump and perform other energetic movements.

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Fit Facts™ I Need More Energy!

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You're in the middle of a long workout and you're wondering how in the world you're going to muster up enough energy to finish. We've all been there. It's as though someone has unscrewed the cap and let all the fuel out of our tank.

So what should you reach for to help you comfortably finish your workout? Sports-product manufacturers have come up with all sorts of new items to help you do just that. But are they really any better than the old standards: water, a banana or a bagel?

Before we answer that question, a caveat: There is no single solution that works for everyone. Once you explore your options, you can determine which is the best for your body's particular needs.

Choices, choices, choices

There are few things more essential to maintaining performance than staying hydrated throughout your workout. Water is an obvious first choice, but you may need extra energy in the form of carbohydrates to get through a particularly long or strenuous exercise session.

If this is the case, energy bars or gels and sports drinks may be the answer to your depleted energy supply. What follows is a breakdown of the pros and cons of each.

Water

Water is a calorie-free source of the fluid

your body needs to keep going. There is no better way to compromise performance than to exercise while you're dehydrated. Research shows that your heart rate increases eight beats per minute for every liter of sweat lost during exercise. This can occur in as little as 30 minutes of exercise depending upon the environment and your intensity.

This increased heart rate, combined with inefficient cooling, causes your temperature to elevate. This not only compromises performance, but can lead to heat illness as well.

Most experts recommend drinking at least a cup (four to 10 ounces) of water every 15 minutes of exercise.

Sports drinks

Activities lasting longer than one hour can leave your body wanting more than just water. Sports drinks, which typically contain about 50 to 70 calories, plus vitamins and minerals, are an easy answer to both the fluid and carbohydrate drain that comes from prolonged activity. Research shows that runners and cyclists who consume a sports drink during races not only finish more quickly, but rate their exertion levels lower than those who consumed a placebo beverage.

It is important to realize, however, that this was true only during longer-duration activities. You should be able to complete your 30-minute run or 45-minute step class without the aid of additional carbohydrates.

Energy gels and bars

Energy gels are a relatively new alternative to traditional sports drinks or bars.

They feel similar in texture to pudding and are easy to eat and easy for your stomach to digest. They typically contain about 70 to 100 calories and may also include caffeine and other ergogenic aids.



Energy bars have been around forever and are eaten more often as a snack than as an energy replacement during exercise. Today, the market is saturated with numerous flavors and types, each with a different ratio of fats, carbohydrates and protein. The key is to find one that tastes good and doesn't upset your stomach.

At 110 to 250 (or more) calories each, energy bars also provide extra vitamins, minerals and fiber, which ups their nutritional value considerably. But eating an energy gel or bar is not enough. You must consume enough fluid to replace what's been lost as well as to help speed digestion.

How you choose to refuel during a workout depends on your body's reaction to what you put in it. For sessions lasting less than an hour, water is sufficient so long as you consume at least four to 10 ounces every 15 minutes.








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Texas Events - April

1—CLEAR LAKE AREA: 11th Annual Crawfish Festival Includes plates of boiled crawfish with all the trimmings, carnival foods, kids games, gumbo cook-off, crawfish-eating contests, silent auction, dunking booth, live zydeco music and more. Hours are 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Landolt Pavilion, Clear Lake Park, 5001 NASA Road 1. 281/488-7676

1—CLEAR LAKE AREA: Clear Lake Crawfish Crawl 5-K Walk Participants can walk, run or roller blade around Clear Lake Park and through Clear Lake Forest. Begins at 9 a.m. 281/488-7676

1—GALVESTON: The Grand Kids Festival Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice St. www.thegrand.com 409/765-1894

1-2—HOUSTON: 11th Annual Bayou City Cajun Fest Live bands perform from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Features shrimp etouffee, red beans and rice, fried boudin balls, seafood gumbo, and spicy boiled crawfish. Traders Village. www.tradersvillage.com 281/890-5500

1-2—HOUSTON: H-E-B Children's Festival Offers a dazzling smorgasbord of exciting activities, including six entertainment stages, more than 350 games and 10 Family Adventure areas. Downtown Houston. www.houstonchildrensfestival.com 713/522-9723

1-2—HOUSTON: The Peking Acrobats This troupe of China's most gifted tumblers, jugglers, cyclists and gymnasts are complemented by live musicians playing traditional Chinese instruments. Jones Hall. www.spahouston.org 713/227-4SPA

2—GALVESTON: Stories from the Appalachian Mountains Raised in the Appalachian Mountains among a family of storytellers, Elizabeth Ellis has been telling stories professionally for more than 20 years. Begins at 2 p.m. The Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice St. www.thegrand.com 409/765-1894

5-23—HOUSTON: *The Dead Guy* A man is given \$1 million to spend in seven days — his last week on earth. The catch is everything is televised and viewers vote on how he dies. www.stagestheatre.com 713/527-0123

6—ORANGE: *Three Musketeers* Lutcher Theater. www.lutcher.org 409/745-5535 or 800/828-5535

7—HOUSTON: Ballet Austin's Not Afraid of the Dark — The Show that Glows This performance takes a journey into a glow-in-the-dark world, where turning off the lights isn't scary. Begins at 7 p.m. Wortham Center's Cullen Theater. www.spahouston.org 713/227-4SPA

8—HOUSTON: Buglisi/Foreman Dance Begins at 8 p.m. Wortham Center's Cullen Theater. www.spahouston.org 713/227-4SPA

8—HOUSTON: Indochinese Tigers Birthday Party Tiger brothers Jamu and Pandu celebrate their sixth birthdays. Includes enrichment events and

Tiger Talk keeper chats. Hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Houston Zoo. www.houstonzoo.org 713/533-6500

8-9—HOUSTON: Camera Show Marriott Hotel-Hobby Airport. 713/868-9606

8-9—HOUSTON: Japan Festival Includes a main stage, martial arts stage, Japanese food vendors, 50 exhibitors and kids games. Tour the gardens where a tea ceremony, bonsai demonstrations and displays, Ikebana flower arranging demonstrations, origami and more are held. Hermann Park — Japanese Gardens. E-mail: yoko@jashouston.org 713/963-0121

8, 15—SPRING: Celebration of Easter 2006 www.oldtownspringtx.com 800/653-8696

9—FRIENDSWOOD: Easter in the Park Offers an Easter egg hunt for children, 8 years old and younger. Stevenson Park. E-mail: fwdchamber@swbell.net • www.friendswood-chamber.com

9—HOUSTON: Czech SpringFest 713/349-0500 or 866/293-2443

9—HOUSTON: Migration Celebration Includes conservation booths, craft areas, games and special "Keeper Chats" and docent presentation. Hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Houston Zoo. www.houstonzoo.org 713/533-6500

14-16—GALVESTON: Will Rogers Follies Showcases the life and career of America's "favorite son." The Grand Opera House. www.thegrand.com 409/765-1894

15-16—KEMAH: Easter Weekend Includes an egg hunt, egg decorating, giant egg pinata bust, pictures with the Easter bunny, sunrise nondenominational church service and more. Kemah Boardwalk. www.kemahboardwalk.com 281/334-9880

15, 18, 23, 25, 28, 30—HOUSTON: Bizet's *Carmen* Opera's most famous femme fatale returns. This is a co-production of Houston Grand Opera, Opera Pacific and Michigan Opera Theatre. Wortham Theater Center. 713/228-6737 or 800/626-7372

17-23—HOUSTON: Shell Houston Open Golf Tournament About 150 of the world's best golfers pursue the \$5 million-plus purse. Redstone Golf Club. www.shellhoustonopen.com 281/454-7000

21-22—HOUSTON: Waste Management Earth Day Festival Children can enjoy a variety of games and crafts from building environmentally friendly bird feeders to puzzling their way through the Migration Trail Maze. Learn how conservationists track migrating birds. Hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. Houston Zoo. www.houstonzoo.org 713/533-6500

21-23, 28-30—SPRING: 20th Annual Texas Crawfish & Music Festival Features music on three stages, rides, exhibits, kids area and food. 281/288-

(Continued on Page 11)



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Texas Events - (Continued from Page 10)

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21-30—HOUSTON: WorldFest: Houston International Film Festival Brings a blend of feature films, shorts, screenplays, TV commercials, music videos and documentaries to viewers throughout the area. www.worldfest.org 713/965-9955

22—ALVIN: Annual Alvin Area Garden Tour Visit several private gardens plus the museum and grounds. Includes vendors with patio/garden art, furniture, decorations and more. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Marquerite Rogers House Museum, 113 E. Dumble. E-mail: pdkl@hal-pc.org 281/393-1538

22—CLEAR LAKE AREA: Gulf Greyhound Park — Wiener Dawg Nationals I-45 S., exit 15, between Houston and Galveston. www.gulfgreyhound.com 409/986-9500 or 800/275-2946

22-23—HOUSTON: BP MS 150 Bike Tour More than 12,000 cyclists participate. Two-day bike tour takes riders from Houston to Austin to raise funds to fight MS. www.nationalmssociety.org/txh/home 800/344-4867

22-23, 29-30—HOUSTON: Houston International Festival Spotlights Jamaica. Downtown is filled with ethnic food booths, arts & crafts, kiosks, exhibits and 1,800 various performers. Features music and dance groups from around the world. Downtown Houston, including City Hall, Tranquility Park, Bagby Street, Upper and Lower Sam Houston Park and Allen Parkway. www.ifest.org 713/654-8808

28—HOUSTON: BREAK! The Urban Funk Spectacular Show explores the past 30 years of hip-hop dancing. Begins at 7 p.m. Jones Hall. www.spahouston.org 713/227-4SPA

29—HOUSTON: Monteverdi's *The Coronation of Poppea* (L'Incoronazione Di Poppea) Houston Grand Opera. Wortham Theater Center. 713/228-6737

or 800/626-7372

29—LA PORTE: Hard Hat Tour Aboard the USS TEXAS Enjoy a guided tour of areas rarely seen by the public. Reservations required; must be age 14 or older. Battleship Texas. 281/479-2431 ext. 234

29-30—HOUSTON: 35th Annual Hal John & Judy Wimberly Memorial Chili Cook-Off Traders Village. E-mail: kdkone@aol.com • www.houstonpod.org 281/890-5500

30—ALVIN: St. John's Family Festival Hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. St. John's Grounds, 100 E. South St. 281/331-3751

Texas Events has been published with the permission of the Texas Department of Transportation. All events are taken in part from the Texas Events Calendar. All dates for events were correct at the time of publication and are subject to change.

START SOMETHING

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(Chart shows average price per square foot)

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