

# The Ranch Review

www.riataranch.net

July 2007

Volume 2, Issue 7

Official Publication of Riata Ranch Homeowners Association

## HOA Annual Meeting

The Riata Ranch Home Owner's Association (HOA) annual meeting was held last month. Topics discussed included a report of the HOA finances and a discussion of general conditions in the community. The proposed change to the by-laws to allow for declining forum was voted down. There were also two new HOA board members that were elected to the board, Cameron Newcomb and Sandy Thibodeaux. For more information call SCS Management at (281) 463-1777 or e-mail riatahoa@riataranch.net

## Adult Party

Ready to enjoy some adult only time with other Riata Ranch residents? Then mark your calendar for the Annual Adult Party on July 21, 2007 at 8:30 PM. You do not want to miss this event, so make sure you get the babysitter booked now so that you can enjoy a night out close to home.

Hope to see you there,  
Riata Ranch Special Events

## Special Events Committee

July 4th: Children's 4th of July Parade (10am – 1pm)

Children of all ages are encouraged to join in on the annual Riata Ranch parade. Children are encouraged to dress in red, white, and blue and decorate their bikes. If your child does not ride a bike, they are welcome to walk, skate, or parade along in anyway they can. We encourage creativity and will be awarding a gift to the most patriotic child! We will have special guests from the police and fire departments joining us for this event.

**July 21st – ADULTS ONLY Luau by the pool. (8pm)**

It's time to come and relax for an evening by the pool. A great time to come and meet the neighbors!

**August 7th: 2007 National Night Out /Kids Scavenger hunt (7pm)**

A night for the neighbors to come out and help the neighborhood kids with a scavenger hunt. Each section will have their own scavenger hunt and will be a fun way to get to know the neighbors.

**August 11th : Kindergarten Round-up (10am – 12pm)**

Is your child starting Kindergarten this August? All children attending Postma elementary for Kindergarten are encouraged to join us for games and activities. This is a fun way to kick off the school year and gives the kids a chance to meet each other before the school year begins!

*(Continued on page 3)*

## National Night Out

National Night Out on August 7th is a nationally known neighborhood safety event. This event is recognized for bringing together the partnership of the local police and the local community in an effort to reduce neighborhood crime and improve neighborhood unity. On August 7th Riata Ranch is planning to be actively involved in this event. We are planning some special activities including appearances from various police patrol units and organizing scavenger hunts within each section. We are encouraging all our neighbors to come outside and get to know each other.

That evening we encourage all neighbors to turn their porch lights on at 7pm as a symbol of neighborhood unity. We will be posting more information about the evenings activities and logistics on the Riataranch.net website closer to the event.

If you are interested in purchasing any official National Night Out gear such as T shirts and banners you can contact the NNO Superstore on the web at [www.nationalnightout.org](http://www.nationalnightout.org)

The national coordinators of the Night Out event have established a new and unique component of National Night Out called "Project 365". This is where the community identifies a problem area such as a park, graffiti area, or potential drug or gang area in our community that we will work towards improving in the next 365 days. We are looking for a "Project 365" coordinator to organize and oversee an effort to improve one problem or potential problem area.

Some ideas of improvement areas recommended by the national organization include:

Improving a poorly lit street or corner

Ensuring park areas do not have underage drinking, drugs or criminal activity

Targeting residential crime or vandalism

Cleaning up an area prone to trash

If you'd like more information on the National Night Out event please stay tuned to our website Riataranch.net and go to events or email us at [events@riataranch.net](mailto:events@riataranch.net). If you'd be interested in volunteering for this event please consider joining the special events committee!



POLICE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

# 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
Posta Elementary .....	281-345-3660
Spillane Middle .....	281-216-1645
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
AT&T/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
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### Newsletter Publisher

Peel, Inc.....	888-687-6444
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## Business Classifieds

### Do you love children? Could you use some extra money?

Fairfield Baptist Church is looking for paid nursery workers on Sunday mornings. If you are interested please contact Brigette at [tinytown@fairfieldbaptist.com](mailto:tinytown@fairfieldbaptist.com). You must be 18 years or older.

## This Is Your Newsletter!

Do you have an idea or suggestion for the newsletter? Want to submit a photo, article, or both? It's easy!! Email the editor at [editor@riataranch.net](mailto:editor@riataranch.net). Articles for the newsletter are finalized on the 10<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month So if you get your ideas in before the deadline, you should see them in the very next month's newsletter.

We are glad to hear all of the positive feedback and we intend to continue to improving the look and feel of the newsletter according to what you tell us. So get as involved as you like! We look forward to hearing from you.

*Don't want to wait for the mail?*

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## Special Events - (Continued from cover page)

### August 18th: Screen on the Green – Movie @ the Park (8pm)

All families are welcome to come sit out under the stars and watch a family friendly movie. Bring a blanket and/or lawn chairs to the 1st annual screen on the green. Prior to the movie there will be activities and a chance to visit with the neighbors!

#### Fall Activities include:

##### October

DATE TBD: Future Business Leaders of America – We have all heard the saying “our kids are our future”, and we want to inspire our youth to think as business leaders. We are looking for all children in the CY- Fair school district that would like to participate and show off their business. Children in all grade levels are encouraged to participate. We will have an award for elementary, middle school and high school levels.

We are looking for any business concept from lemonade stands, babysitters, lawn mowers, cookie stands to more advanced business ideas. Start working with your kids individually or with a group (ie, girl scouts, boy scout troops, church groups, classes, or other clubs) to develop their business. We are building community support for this activity and would be very interested in local business participation and sponsorship of this event. If your child or group is interested in participating in this event or if you have a business that would be interested in participating as a sponsor please contact events@

riataranch.net.

More details on this event to come!

### October 27th Fall Frolic

Ideas for this event include BBQ, craft exhibits, antiques, art, local merchants, pumpkin patch for pictures, pumpkin carving contest, bake sales, pony rides, dog costume parade/fundraiser, kids costume contest, old fashioned Halloween party games, kids relay races, petting zoo. More details on this event to come!

### November 3rd: Fall Garage Sale

#### November 17th:

Special crafts made at the Fall Frolic will be given to a local nursing home.

### December 3rd – 7th :

Collection of Blankets and Coats for Bundles of Love

### December 15th:

Breakfast with Santa (10am) and Christmas Caroling (6:30pm)

These are just some of the highlights. Stay tuned for more details on each event and others not yet listed. We are looking for volunteers for all activities. We are always looking for sponsors, donations, and new ideas! Please contact us at events@riataranch.net if you can help!

We are also looking for participants to join a Riata Ranch walking team (including kids) to participate in at least one 5k charity walk. If you would be interested we'd love to put our best foot forward in the Houston area! Please join us!



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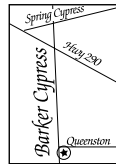
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# Riata Ranch

## POOL SEASON

Pool Tags will be required for admittance. The pool will be open the following days in 2007:

DAYS: May 27 through August 26  
September 1, 2, 3

The pool will be open when a lifeguard is on duty during the following hours:

Monday	Closed*
Tuesday	10:00 am to 8:00 pm
Wednesday	10:00 am to 8:00 pm
Thursday	10:00 am to 8:00 pm
Friday	10:00 am to 8:00 pm
Saturday	10:00 am to 8:00 pm
Sunday	12:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Special Hours:

Memorial Day (May 28) 10:00 am to 8:00 pm

Labor Day (September 3) 10:00 am to 8:00 pm

\*(Closed on Tuesday if Holiday falls on a Monday)

The following qualifications must be met in order to use the pool facility:

1. Tags must be worn at all times while at the pool
2. You must be a member of the Association. Members may invite two guests per tag holder.
3. Members must be current on all Maintenance Fees in order to receive the tags.
4. Tags are not necessary for children under the age of six.
5. Tags are issued to full-time household members as listed on your application.

If you need pool tags or have any questions please call SCS Management at (281) 463-1777.



## Cy-Fair College, "Perspective"

New Student Orientation Sessions Set- Student orientations will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (a boxed lunch is included) July 11, July 24 and Aug. 1 with a family orientation set 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. the same dates. An orientation for non-traditional adults returning to school will be held from 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Aug. 8. All the orientation sessions will be held at the Barker Cypress campus at 9191 Barker Cypress Road at West Road. All sessions are free, but space is limited and pre-registration is required.

Check out the New Summer Reading Program for Adults- The Harris County Public Library has teamed up with Barnes and Nobles to host a summer reading program for adults ages 18 and older titled Reading – The Ultimate Vacation. Program participants will be eligible to win Barnes and Noble gift cards just by reading or listening to three books this summer. In August, each branch, including the Cy-Fair College Branch Library, will draw a winner for a \$20 gift card and HCPL will draw a winner from all participants for a \$150 gift card.

Ever Thought About a New Career in Teaching?- Cy-Fair College will host an information session on two teaching programs Tuesday, July 10 on the Barker Cypress campus in the Conference Center. The session will start at 5 p.m. and will cover information on the Associate of Arts in Teaching degree program, in which participants can earn a University of Houston bachelor's degree while taking classes on the Cy-Fair College campus. Then at 6 p.m., learn how to enter the teaching profession through the Alternative Certification Program.

Save the Date for Children's Summer Show- Mark your calendars for the children's summer production of 'Tite Rouge, a charming and rollicking retelling of Little Red Riding Hood set at 10 a.m. Mondays through Fridays and noon Saturdays Aug. 6 – Aug. 18.

L.I.F.E. in July is Interactive- The Learning, Inspiration, Fellowship and Enrichment (L.I.F.E.) programs are free and held Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Cy-Fair College Branch Library (Room 131.) July programs include "Ask Precinct 3 County Commissioner Steve Radack Anything" July 11, "Show and Tell" about your hobby, pastime or book July 18 and "There's a Doctor in the House" July 25. (There is no program July 4.)

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## Volunteers Needed

The special events committee is a composed entirely of neighbor volunteers. We need more help to carry off these events and make them a big success. We would like to have at least one member from each section on the committee. We also need volunteers to help get the word out regarding activities. Please contact [events@riataranch.net](mailto:events@riataranch.net) for more information on committee meetings.



## Kindergarten Round UP

If your soon to be kindergartner is jumping up and down with excitement about his/her upcoming new adventure in elementary school then come join the Riata Ranch Special Events celebration for our newest scholars on August 11th for the annual Kindergarten Round UP. This event is for any Riata Ranch child that will be starting kindergarten at Postma elementary this upcoming school year. There will be crafts, games, and other fun surprises. This is a great way for your child to meet fellow classmates. The event will be held at the Kids R Kids gymnasium (on Barker Cypress just outside the Riata Ranch subdivision). The fun starts at 10am and ends at noon. Hope to see you there!!

## Camp Hope Comes to Cypress

Messiah Lutheran Church is hosting three weeks of a Christian day camp called Camp Hope. The camp runs July 16-August 3; participants may sign up for one, two, or three weeks. Children in kindergarten through sixth grade are invited to attend. The campers have full days of crafts, stories, games, and songs. This is Messiah's eighth year to host Camp Hope; the counselors and small group leaders have received extensive training. The camp offers extended hours for working parents. The community is invited to share in this exciting program.

## Rachael's



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# Riata Ranch

## Wake up to MOPS @ The MET!

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## Cypress Assistance Ministries

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[www.cypressassistanceministries.com](http://www.cypressassistanceministries.com)

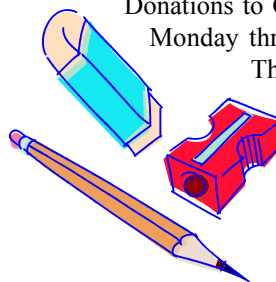
Have your kids grown tired of their toys this summer? Angels' Attic's newly remodeled toy department is fully stocked with toys, puzzles, games, and books sure to please children of all ages. All proceeds from Angels' Attic Resale Shop support the ministry work and food pantry at CAM.

With kids home from school for the summer, donations of canned meats and snack foods of all types would be greatly appreciated.

Cypress Assistance Ministries (CAM), located at 11202 Huffmeister, exists to provide a safe place for individuals or families to tell their story and be offered some measure of hope during difficult times. For a description of all our services and volunteer opportunities, please see our Web site, [www.cypressassistanceministries.com](http://www.cypressassistanceministries.com)

Donations to Cypress Assistance Ministries can be made  
Monday through Wednesday from 10AM – 6PM and  
Thursday through Saturday from 10AM – 3 PM.

If you need further information, please  
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## Vacation Watch

At your request, the Harris County Sheriff's Department will put your house on VACATION WATCH. Just go to [www.riataranch.net](http://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.

## PERSONAL CLASSIFIEDS

To add your classified add e-mail [editor@riatacranch.net](mailto:editor@riatacranch.net)

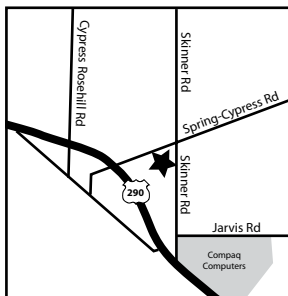
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# Riata Ranch

## Neighborhood Crime Watch

Dear Homeowner,

The Riata Ranch Home Owners Association in cooperation with the Harris County Sheriffs Office are in the process of organizing a Neighborhood Crime Watch Program for our Community. If your interested in joining please call SCS Management Services at 281-463-1777 or email us at [security@riataranch.net](mailto:security@riataranch.net)

What is the Riata Ranch Neighborhood Crime Watch?

Very few people are in a position to protect their homes and property 100% of the time. Vacation, business, and shopping trips, or even an evening out will leave homes unattended and vulnerable to theft.

Neighborhood Crime Watch is a program of mutual assistance among neighbors aimed at reducing crime in the community at the grass roots level. It involves getting to know one's neighbors and introducing them to the concept of Neighborhood Crime Watch – that is good neighbors working together, alert to the potential of crime, and willing to look out for one another's interests. Neighbors working together through Neighborhood Crime Watch can combat crime in their area the most effective way – BEFORE IT STARTS!

Citizens offer an open invitation to criminals every day when they leave their doors unlocked, advertise their absence from home with an unlit house, piled up newspapers, or leave car keys in the ignition.

When formulating a crime control strategy, one must consider which course is more effective and less costly: hundreds of law


enforcement personnel in every neighborhood and a guard at every door – OR – ADEQUATE LIGHTING, SECURE HOMES AND WATCHFUL NEIGHBORS. It would appear that crime prevention is the most logical and most economical approach to take in crime control.

Neighborhood Crime Watch provides a means of reducing the opportunity for crime to occur, through the active participation of citizens in crime prevention. Citizens are taught how to make their homes less of an attractive target for thieves, how to participate in Operation Identification, making their property less desirable to thieves, and how to be alert to suspicious activity in the neighborhood.

Primary objectives of neighborhood crime watch:

1. Maintain a minimum level of 60% residential participation (a cooperative system of surveillance over one another's property, etc.)
2. Report suspicious activity or persons or crimes in progress to the Sheriff's Department accurately and immediately.
3. Mutually assist and encourage the accomplishment of home security inspections, target hardening and property marking activities by all neighborhood residents.
4. Assist the victims of crime and assist in their readjustment to normalcy.

*(Continued on page 9)*

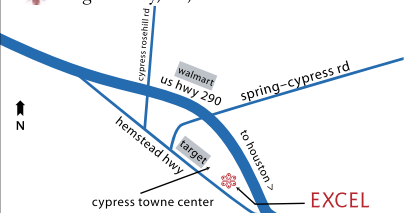




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- ✿ Work related services — injuries, drug and alcohol testing
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\*Some Restrictions Apply



## Neighborhood Watch - (Continued from page 8)

5. Encourage citizens to come forward as witnesses.
6. Help elderly citizens and children to protect themselves against being a victim of a criminal and push for additional projects to protect these special groups of persons whenever necessary.

Neighborhood Crime Watch and the Theory of Reduction of Opportunity: MOST RESIDENTIAL CRIMES OCCUR BECAUSE THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMIT THEM EXISTED !!

Opportunity may be divided into two categories:

1. The opportunity created by the victim through carelessness, lack of attention of security and failure to cooperate with neighbors.
2. The opportunity created by the criminal, by his skill, ruthlessness, and daring.

We ask you to join us in making our community a safe and wonderful place live. On behalf of the Executive Board I wanted to personally thank you for your continued support and cooperation in enhancing our community.

Sincerely Respectfully, Riata Ranch Home Owners Association

## HELPFUL TOOLS on RIATARANCH.NET

On our website, under DOCS, FORMS, LINKS, there are many helpful tools at your disposal. All of the known forms needed for all neighborhood business and activities are listed on the site, and the list keeps growing. As a new need is realized, the site gets updated with additional links in an effort to give you one place to find everything you need to make the most out of our community.

You will find everything from information regarding mosquitoes and violation summaries, to downloadable forms for vacation watches and ACC applications.

One of the tools that you'll find is very helpful, but not very pleasant. It is a link to the sex offender section of the TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY web site (<https://records.txdps.state.tx.us/soSearch/default.cfm>). This site contains a mapping tool that allows you to input your address and assess your surroundings and proximity to known offenders.

Although it is a difficult subject to address, this link helps enhance the safety of our community through knowledge.

Use the site. Be knowledgeable and be safe.

Pastor Mark  
and  
Laura Shook



## *Building Strong Families* **Community of Faith**

16124 Becker Road at Hwy. 290 77447

Sat: 6:00 pm • Sun: 9:00 am and 11:00 am • 832.875.2520 • [cofonline.org](http://cofonline.org)

# Riata Ranch

## Cypress Christian School Seniors Receive Special Honors/Help Needy

Special Honors- Sunday, May 27, 2007 was a day to remember when Cypress Christian School celebrated the graduation of its tenth senior class. As all 47 students entered the auditorium, the audience stood and the cameras started flashing. Proud parents, family members and friends filled the pews prepared to experience that all important moment when their loved one crossed the stage to receive his/her diploma! From the beginning to the end, the ceremony was filled with special awards.

Congratulations to Kristan Hinn, Valedictorian, for achieving this special honor as well as the Faculty Scholarship for Academic Excellence and a Fine Arts Scholarship. Kristan plans to attend Baylor University to study medicine and business. In addition, congratulations go to Salutatorian, Evan Wepler, for receiving three different scholarships, the Christian Character Scholarship, a Fine Arts Scholarship, and the Spirit of Paul Scholarship. Evan also

plans to attend Baylor University.

CCS seniors (all 47 students) will be attending over 32 different colleges in the United States with many of them using scholarship funds from various colleges, universities and institutions. All together, the Class of '07 was offered over \$1 Million in scholarship funds.

Missions- Before graduation, members of the senior class traveled to Costa Rica for their annual senior trip which includes an opportunity to perform missions work among the needy in that country. Classmates worked alongside each other and their chaperones to help with a special project at a local church and also presented a very special and fun program to children in the area. CCS seniors recommend that everyone set aside time to help the needy either in the local community, in another state or abroad. It brings a special appreciation to your life and a desire to continue serving those in need.

## Advertising Information

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 888-687-6444 or [advertising@PEELinc.com](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com) for ad information and pricing.

## 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](mailto:editor@riatranch.net).

**Business classifieds** (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales @ 512-989-8905 or [advertising@PEELinc.com](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com).

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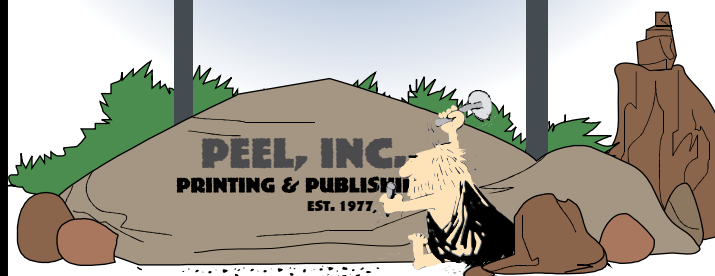
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## Attention Teenage Job Seekers

Need some extra cash? Use THE RANCH REVIEW to find some work.

Fill out the 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. To be removed from this list please call (281) 463-1777.

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

Teenage Job Seekers:

(B=Babysitting, Pt = Pet care, Pl = Plant Care, H= House Care, L= Lawn Care)

**Not Available Online**

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_

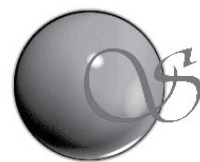
Age \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

*Cy Fair Dental. Com*  
**Dr. A. Sundrani**



## *Dental Tip of the Month.*

Dear Friends,

As we all know, over time most teeth typically will lose their brightness and luster due to various factors. Staining of the teeth is very common and some individuals have a yellow or grayish color, but this does not necessarily mean that they are not healthy. There are two categories of dental stains, extrinsic and intrinsic. Extrinsic stains such as coffee, tea, and wines can be minimized by brushing twice a week with a mixture of equal amounts of baking soda and hydrogen peroxide. Also, regular visits with your dentist to remove the accumulation that is impossible to remove at home. The second kind of discoloration occurs during early tooth development. The contributing factors are antibiotics, excess fluoride, injury of a baby tooth, iron supplements, and high fever. Also habits such as grinding, brushing with a hard tooth brush, and biting into lemons can thin the enamel, causing the layer under it to show through. This makes the tooth appear a lot darker as the darker second layer of the tooth is a lot more visible.

Remember, if you feel as though your smile is not as white and bright as you would like it to be, only your dentist can determine the reasons and true causes behind it. There are several reasonable and effective procedures to whiten your smile and it starts with a visit to your dentist.

In the mean time, if you have any dental related questions, please email me at [sundranids@yahoo.com](mailto:sundranids@yahoo.com), and I will happily respond to your inquiries.

On the aside, we want to thank all our patients for referring us their friends, families, and neighbors. Only your referrals will enable us to continue to give the highest quality care with the personal touch that we provide.

Your dentist,  
Dr. Sundrani

**[sundranids@yahoo.com](mailto:sundranids@yahoo.com)**

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# Life In Riata Ranch

Ann Marie Gargano-Parks

Visit me at

[www.RiataRanch-Neighbors.com](http://www.RiataRanch-Neighbors.com)

Comments are always welcome at:

[thatgirl@AnnMarieGargano-Parks.com](mailto:thatgirl@AnnMarieGargano-Parks.com)

*Price trends for the previous month...*



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ing to the Houston MLS.*

Neighborhood Section	Active Listings	Pending Listings	Solds	Ave. Days on Market	Ave. Price per Sq. Ft
Section 1	3	2	-	-	-
Section 2	5	1	-	-	-
Section 3	4	3	1	54	71.09
Section 4	2	4	3	75	62,64
Section 5	6	-	-	-	-
Section 6	1	-	1	178	77.69**
Section 7	1	2	-	-	-
Section 8	1	-	1	189	84.02**
Section 9	2	2	-	-	-
Section 10	1	-	3	75	<b>72.97*</b>
Section 11	4	-	-	-	-

\*Ann Marie Sold in section 10 for \$72.28 SqFt. \*\*Solds in section 6 & 8 were new construction.

According to information taken from the Houston Board of Realtors MLS computer.  
This is not a solicitation of currently listed properties.

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