

The Ranch Review

www.riataranch.net

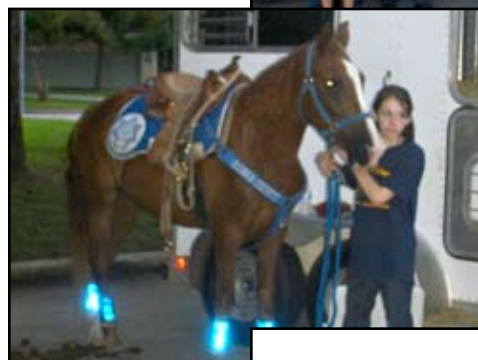
September 2007

Volume 2, Issue 9

Official Publication of Riata Ranch Homeowners Association

National Night Out – Fantastic for All

If you did not stop by the Nation Night Out festivities then you missed a fantastic time! There was music, balloon animals, a fire truck, a police horse, and a Taekwondo demonstration! A great time was had by all. Many thanks go out to the volunteers that pulled off such a successful event!



Garage Sale Article October 13th

Twice a year Riata Ranch hosts a garage sale to help you clean out home clutter and earn some spare change. We will be hosting our next garage sale on October 13th beginning at 8am.

The main expenses of the garage sale cover advertising in numerous papers across the Houston area. Without this advertising we couldn't attract the numerous visitors that come and participate. We pay for this advertising through the small \$5 dollar fee that each home is asked to contribute.

Unfortunately a number of residents have kept their garage sale signs over the years and this causing us extra-unneeded expense. Just because you have a sign does not mean you don't need to pay. In fact, if you don't register and pay the small fee, we risk not having enough registered homes to participate in the sale and we don't have enough funds to cover our advertising costs.

The special events committee would like to keep this trend from continuing and are reaching out to you to help us out. The first way you can help is by participating in the garage sale. We need at least 70 homes registered by October 7th to have the event but we need more than that to earn money! Please check your garages, attics, back of the closets and under your bed as there must be something taking up space.

Our second request is that you check around your house or garage and find any old garage sale signs that might not have been returned. We ask that you return all signs as soon as possible so that they may be used again. Please check around your house and remind your neighbors to return their signs. This will help us out tremendously!

If you'd like to participate in the garage sale or have a sign to return, Please call Bobbie McKeon at 281-213-3140. You can register anytime via the phone or by email at riataranchgaragesale@yahoo.com. The last chance to register will be at the pool on Saturday October 7th from 6pm – 7pm.

For your convenience we will be coming through the neighborhood at the end of the garage sale to pick up signs that are left in the yards.

Please help us make this a successful event!!

RiataRanch.net

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
Advertising.....	advertising@Peelinc.com, 888-687-6444

Cypress Assistance Ministries GED & ESL Tutors Needed

11202 Huffmeister
281-955-7684

www.cypressassistanministries.com

Cypress Assistance Ministries is proud to be opening a new classroom for GED and ESL classes. This updated classroom space will provide a better opportunity for individual as well as group instruction. We are currently seeking dedicated volunteers to tutor adults in Math, Reading, Writing and English. Classes are held Monday through Thursday evenings. Please contact Lisa Basset or Kelly Thomas at 281-955-7684 if you are interested in this volunteer opportunity.

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.cypressassistanministries.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 give us a call at 281-955-7684 and ask for Kelly or Lisa.

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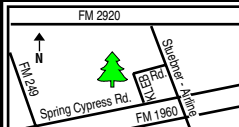


PUMPKIN PATCH

Open Saturdays & Sundays in October 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Admission: \$3.00/person (age 2 & up)

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Kristie K Gatto, MA, CCC-SLP
Jennifer A Swearingin, MA, CCC-SLP

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Riata Ranch Supports Silverado Senior Center For Thanksgiving.

Riata Ranch special events committee is looking for volunteers to help make Thanksgiving special for residents of the Silverado Senior Living Center. We are creating special gifts for the residents and are looking for help. We will be creating gifts/crafts and collecting donated gifts at the Fall Frolic event on October 27th. The donations will be given to the Senior Center on November 3rd.

To help please contact Lynn at events@riataranch.net if you'd like to help.

Cypress Christian School announces Blood Drive

The Student Council of Cypress Christian School asks you to help save a life by giving blood! The Blood Mobile will be on campus from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Monday, September 10. Please stop by the school at 11123 Cypress N. Houston Road at Jones Road to donate. If you have questions about donating blood, visit www.giveblood.org. If you need directions to the school, please call 281-469-8829.

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RIATA RANCH FALL FROLIC

OCTOBER 27th 10am – 2pm

On Saturday October 27th Riata Ranch will be hosting Fall Frolic. This event will be a great time for the whole family and community. We will be having a pumpkin patch, petting zoo, old fashioned Halloween games, face painting, talent show, costume contest, numerous business products, arts, crafts, baked goodies...and much much more.

We are looking for participants from all over the community to come join in the fun.

We are also looking for participants who would like to be involved!

We are looking for the following:

Student Age Businesses: We are looking for students of all ages Kindergarten - College to come and show off a business. Lemonade stands, crafts, jewelry, bake sales...you name it ...You can do this individually, with a scout troop, class, or team. We want to see the future business leaders of Cypress! We encourage creativity and will be giving awards to the best businesses.

Professional Businesses: We are looking for any and all businesses to come out and participate in the event. Participating businesses are encouraged to bring a table and come advertise or sell your product. All profits are your own.

We are also looking for local business to support the event by becoming a sponsor. As a sponsor your company name will be listed on the Riata Ranch events website, on signage at the event, and on awards to the best student age businesses. We will also highlight sponsoring businesses on the front of the program of participants that will be handed out at the event.

The fee for a sponsoring business is \$50.

The fee for a participating business is \$20.

Talent: Do you have a special talent? A dance group, singing group, musical instrument, skateboard, juggling, comedy routine, a dog that can do tricks? We are looking to have a talent show as part of the day's entertainment and are looking for participants of all ages.

If you'd like to participate as a student age business, a participating or sponsoring business or if you can participate in the talent show please contact Lynn Spencer at events@riataranch.net.

Or you can just come out and have a great time!! Kids are encouraged to wear their costumes.

Bring a camera and we will see ya there,

Riata Ranch Special Events Committee

Rachael's



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Riata Ranch

Texas Legislative Updates

The Following is summary of this year's legislative session as released by our State Rep. Corbin Van Arsdale. For further information please visit www.riataranch.net

The Sweet



- \$100+ million in border security—including boats, helicopters, and add'l DPS troopers
- \$14+ billion in property tax relief, and unfroze property tax relief for seniors and disabled
- protected our faith heritage and religious expression in the public sphere -- put "Under God" in Texas Pledge, put "In God We Trust" in House and Senate Chambers, provide Bible literature courses in schools, protected voluntary religious expression in schools, protected Bibles from bankruptcy seizures
- created searchable Internet database for all state spending, grants, and contracts (starts 2008)
- passed budget limited to population growth + inflation, and included border security funding
- cut the business tax by raising the small business exemption from \$300,000 indexed up to \$1 million
- got rid of the \$600 million Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund (TIF) tax
- imposed sanctions on employers who apply for grants/subsidies and use illegal immigrants

- required annual application of appraisal cap and better appraisal notification requirements to voters
- checked executive branch on: HPV vaccine mandate, selling the lottery, Trans Texas Corridor private equity agreements with foreign countries
- toughened penalties on child predators (Jessica's Law)
- allowed use of deadly weapon to protect your home (Castle Doctrine)
- end TAKS for high school, replace with end-of-course exams
- made teacher retirement fund fiscally sound and issued 13th check

The Sour

- Voter ID failed
- citizenship verification for CHIP failed
- repeal of "Top 10%" rule for college admissions failed
- taxpayer-funded lobbying still exists
- court reorganization bill failed
- windstorm insurance remains financially vulnerable
- eminent domain bill vetoed
- appraisal cap remains at 10% on homesteads
- no revenue cap for counties, cities
- a second Speaker's race within the session

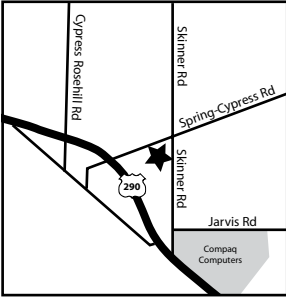
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Greg Riddle
Owner



Updates - (Continued from page 4)

THE FORTUNE COOKIE (looking to the future)

- Bigger, bolder ideas on reducing property taxes
- On appraisal caps, in the Senate there are roughly 8-10 votes FOR, and we need 21 (for constitutional reasons, not because of the "2/3rds Rule"). In the House we probably have 84-85 votes FOR, and we need 100. We need to keep pushing appraisal caps. But we also need to come up with better property tax relief ideas that: (1) only require a majority vote (i.e., easier to pass) or (2) that do more than just slow down automatic tax increases.
- For example, try to get rid of the school property tax altogether, through dedicated surpluses or consumption taxes
- Another example is to require automatic voter approval for total property tax increases of 5% or more
- Combating illegal immigration
- safeguard elections by ensuring that only U.S. citizens vote
- require citizenship verification for all welfare programs
- place citizenship status on all drivers' licenses
- end "sanctuary" cities
- require citizenship verification of all public employees
- Pro-taxpayer fiscal policies
- put population and inflation caps on the state budget
- additional cuts to the business tax
- return more of surplus revenues to taxpayers
- pass a true constitutional spending limit, not the gimmick "spending

cap" we have now that limits returning surpluses to taxpayers
Giving our kids a world-class education

- allow more school choice
- allow voters to elect the state's Commissioner of Education
- prohibit illegal immigrants from qualifying for automatic college admission under the Top 10% rule

Scrutinize TxDOT in Sunset Review process re: Trans Texas Corridor, red light cameras, private equity agreements

For Texas,
CORBIN

Corbin VAN ARSDALE, State Representative, District 130 serving persons in Cy Fair, Klein, Tomball, and Waller
committees: Calendars, Appropriations, State Affairs, Joint Select Committee on Reform of Texas Youth Commission

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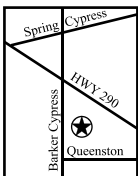
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Sugar Smoothie Mani/Pedi Package	\$55	Anti-Aging Glycolic Facial	\$80

...And much more, visit our website, www.trinity-dayspa.com for complete menu.



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11808 Barker Cypress, Ste. C - www.trinity-dayspa.com

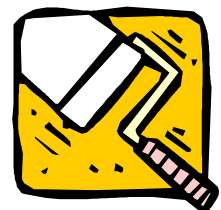
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Riata Ranch

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.



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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 for more information on committee meetings.



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.

Pop Quiz:

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SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

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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community of faith

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Transformed Lives.

What you'll find at Cypress United Methodist Church

Starting **Sunday, September 9th**, Cypress United Methodist Church will explore 40 days with "**Treasures of the Transformed Life**". This will be a churchwide adventure within our Sunday School classes, personal Bible study and in our worship services. We invite you to meet our new minister, Rev. Jerome Brimmage, who will give the following sermons:

- Priming the Pump
- Drawing Water
- Jumping In with Both Feet
- Pennies in the Fountain
- Offering a Drink to Others
- Filling the Bucket to Overflowing



Does your soul thirst for more? Come back to church to transform your life to be more fulfilling, more rich, more meaningful and more joyful. We encourage you to dive right in!

We are excited about what you'll find at Cypress United Methodist Church. With Sunday School classes for children of all ages at both 9:30 and 11am, over 17 Adult classes and an awesome Youth group, we are SURE you'll find your place here at CUMC.



First-time visitors please come by our *Chat Room* in the Ministry Activity Center (MAC) to receive your FREE gift bag.

Worship Services

8:15 am and 11:00 – Traditional

9:30 am – Contemporary

11:00 am – Common Ground

www.cypress-umc.org

Cypress United Methodist Church
13403 Cypress N. Houston Rd. (Just east of Huffmeister)
Cypress, Texas 77429 281.469.0730

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

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!!

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(between Champions Dr. & Champions Forrest Dr.)

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Riata Ranch

Do You Know Who Represents You?

U.S. Senators (Texas)

John Cornyn(R)

517 HART SENATE OFFICE BLDG
WASHINGTON DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-2934
Fax: (202) 228-2856
Email: cornyn.senate.gov

Kay Bailey Hutchison (R)

284 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BLDG
WASHINGTON DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-5922
Fax: (202) 224-0776
hutchison.senate.gov

U.S. House of Representatives (Texas) (District 7)

John Abney Culberson (R)

Capital Office
U.S. House of Representatives
1728 Longworth House Office Building
Washington 20515
Phone: (202) 225 2571
Fax: (202) 225 4381
District Office
10000 Memorial Drive
Suite 620

Houston 77024

Phone: (713) 682 8828

Fax: (713) 680 8070

Email: <http://www.culberson.house.gov/contactinfo.aspx>

Website: <http://www.culberson.house.gov/>

Texas Senator (District 7)

Dan Patrick (R)

Capital Office
PO Box 12068
Capitol Station
Austin 78711
Phone: (512) 463 0107
Fax: (512) 463 8810

District Office

11451 Katy Fwy

Suite 209

Houston 77079

Phone: (713) 464-0282

Fax: (713) 461-0108

Email: <http://www.patrick.senate.state.tx.us/>

Website: <http://www.patrick.senate.state.tx.us/>

Texas House of Representatives

(District 130)

Corbin Van Arsdale (R)

Capital Office

House of Representatives, Room E1.412
PO Box 2910

Austin 78768

Phone: (512) 463 0661

Fax: (512) 463 4130

District Office

12777 Jones Road

Suite 175

Houston 77070

Phone: (281) 469 9130

Fax: (281) 469 4130

Email: corbin.van_arsdale@house.state.tx.us

Website: <http://www.house.state.tx.us>

County Commissioner (Precinct 3)

Steve Radack

Administration Building

1001 Preston, Suite 924

Houston TX 77002

Email: pct3@hctx.net

Website: <http://www.pct3.hctx.net/>

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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 888-687-6444 or 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.

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.

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Publishing community newsletters since 1991

Support This Neighborhood Newsletter.

Kim Moore

Sales Representative

281-373-3807

kim@PEELinc.com



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**We currently publish newsletters
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Harvest Bend, The Village
Kings Manor
Lakes on Eldridge
Lakes on Eldridge North
Lakewood Grove
Legends Ranch
Longwood
Oakwood Glen
Park Lakes
Riata Ranch
Riverstone Ranch
Steeplechase
Summerwood
Village Creek
Waterford Harbor
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Comments are always welcome at:
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Price trends for the previous month...

Neighborhood Section	Active Listings	Pending Listings	Solds	Ave. Days on Market	Ave. Price per Sq. Ft
Section 1	2	1	-		
Section 2	2	1	1	81	80.60
Section 3	3	-	1	68	67.25
Section 4	-	-	3	80	69.91
Section 5	6	2	1	6	70.28
Section 6	4	-	-		
Section 7	1	-	2	24	78.86
Section 8	1	-	1	138	62.65
Section 9	2	1	-		
Section 10	3	2	-		
Section 11	3	-	2	84	68.15

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

Call me today @ 281 460-5994

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