



LAKES

ON ELDRIDGE

Volume 8, Issue 9
September 2009

Official Newsletter
www.lakesoneldridge.net



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

National Night Out October 6th

Once again, National Night Out will be celebrated at the Beach Club from **6:00 pm until 9:00 pm** on **Tuesday October 6th**. This is a popular event, a great way to meet your neighbors and an opportunity to reinforce involvement in the safety of our community. Harris County Sheriff's Office representatives will be on hand to answer questions. Drinks and snacks will be provided. **SEE YOU THERE!**

Annual Homeowners Meeting

Don't forget to mark your calendars for **Tuesday Oct. 20th** and plan to attend the Annual Lakes on Eldridge Homeowner's meeting to be held at **7:00 pm** at **Kirk Elementary School**. This will be an important meeting and we urge all to attend. Among the topics on the agenda are:

1. Election to fill 2 vacancies on the Board of Directors.
2. Patrolling of the community in 2010
3. Communicating within the community
4. 2010 Budget presentation

Our Thanks to Deborah Dunaway

A Big "THANK YOU" goes out this month to Deborah Dunaway, who served tirelessly on the LOE Board of Directors, and also as Chair of the Social committee and as newsletter editor. Deborah has retired from these positions, but leaves a legacy of making our neighborhood a more enjoyable place to live. She remains as a good neighbor to all.

The Board will miss her contributions, and will welcome volunteers to help in continuing and expanding our social activities.

*Thank You
Deborah!*



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Lakes on Eldridge...

FIRST SIX MONTHS IN REVIEW

Price Range	Under 500K	500,000 Plus
Number of Sales	8	5
Avg. List Price	\$340,962	\$611,740
Avg. Adj. Sales Price	\$322,712	\$576,578
Avg. Sq. Footage	3,309	4,933
Avg. Price per Sq.Ft.	\$97.53	\$116.88
Days on Market	79	116
SP/LP Ratio	95%	95%

All information based on HAR/MLS data 1/01/2009 to 6/30/2009 utilizing average adjusted sales figures

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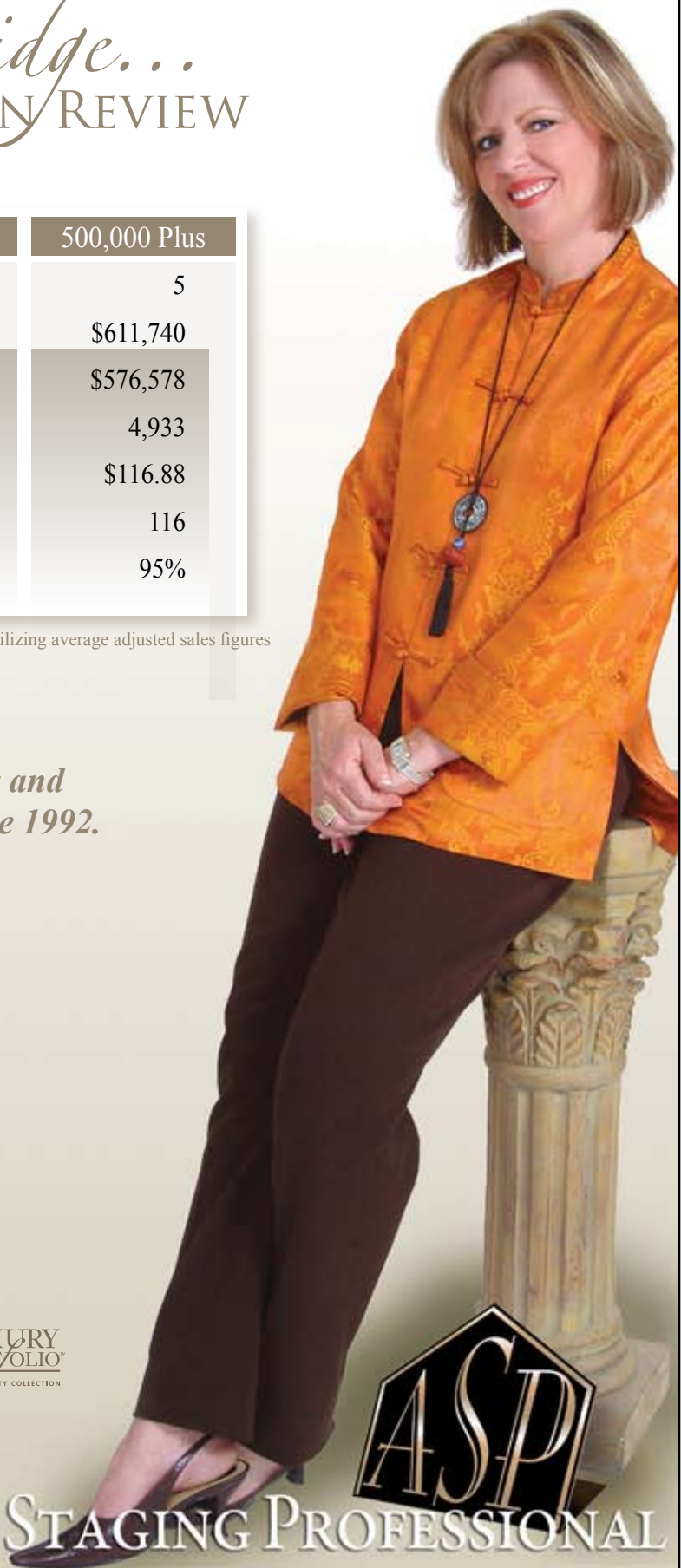
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Lakes on Eldridge

Texas Wildlife Rehabilitation Coalition

TWRC is a private 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization operated by a highly efficient volunteer and part-time staff consisting of permitted rehabilitators, students, seniors, professionals and animal lovers focusing on conservation, public education and wildlife rehabilitation. TWRC is Houston's first urban wildlife emergency and rehabilitative center.

TWRC is funded solely by memberships, donations and private grants. TWRC relies on the support of the community it serves and the generosity of individuals who are committed to saving wildlife.

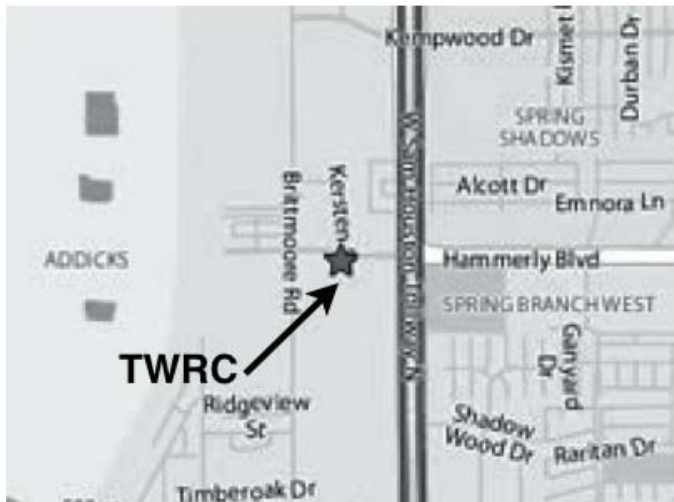
Mission:

"To promote environmental conservation through public education and rehabilitation of native Texas wildlife."

TWRC provides: A staffed center to handle telephone inquiries regarding wildlife-related issues.

Initial examination of wildlife by trained, experienced staff to assess status and provide treatment.

Coordinated placement of wildlife with skilled and permitted rehabilitators who care for the wildlife until release to its native habitat.



Texas Wildlife Rehabilitation Coalition, Inc.
TWRC
10801 Hammerly Blvd.
Suite 200
Houston, TX 77043
713-468-8972

Classifieds

FOR SALE: Pool/billiard table for sale, Tournament Choice Premium, 7 foot, excellent condition, \$350, 713-896-4753.

FOR SALE – gorgeous Pali sleigh crib and 5-drawer dresser set in cherry, plus OmniPedic crib mattress. Crib \$500, dresser \$700, mattress \$75, or \$1000 for all. Contact Carrie at 713-320-8165 or jayhawk94@comcast.net

Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Lakes on Eldridge residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail articles@PEELinc.com

Advertising Information

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Lakes on Eldridge Newsletter. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Lakes on Eldridge residents to receive the monthly 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 Peel, Inc. Sales Office at 512-263-9181; advertising@PEELinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 10th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

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4/3.1/2 One of a kind historical replica of Queen Ann Victorian home located in Old Katy on 2+ac. Built to scale, you will find period elements throughout including doors, fireplaces, mantels, windows and ceiling fans.

Special interior features foyer, parlor, both formals and flex space for additional bedrooms, gameroom or garage apartment huge island kitchen and fabulous wrap around porch on private road. A gem for living in the past with comforts of the present! Perfect setup for a B&B opportunity.

Make Your Dream a Reality



26614 CARDINAL LANE

\$599,000

3/2.1/2 Unique opportunity for this hard to find and highly sought after wooded 3 acres in the heart of Old Katy Proper. This one story home located on a private road offers an open floor plan, hardwood flooring and carpet, spacious family room with fireplace, huge island kitchen offering tons of storage, fabulous front porch, sunroom, exemplary Katy schools, low taxes plus more. Storage shed remains on property. Horse allowed!

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Lakes on Eldridge

Kirk Elementary News

Announces First Back to School Activity Dates

September 11 - Ice Cream Social for Kirk families from 7-8 pm in the cafeteria.

September 18 - Fall Fundraiser Kick-Off (brochures will come home with students)

September 28 - Curriculum Night/Open House 5:30 to 7:30 pm (opportunity for parents to review areas of study for the coming school year and learn how they can support their student)

Kirk Elementary Earns 'Recognized' status for 2009 and CFISD: Largest 'Recognized' School District For Second Straight Year

Our neighborhood school, Kirk Elementary earned the "Recognized" status for 2009 and Cypress-Fairbanks ISD earned "Recognized" status for the second consecutive school year according to the Texas Education Agency's annual accountability ratings.

A small percentage of Texas public school districts achieve "Exemplary" or "Recognized" status each year—the highest two performance brackets measured by the TEA. CFISD was a "Recognized" district for six consecutive years from 1999 to 2004, again in 2008 and currently in 2009.

"This 'Recognized' rating is the result of our students' and staff's commitment to continue to achieve academically," said David Anthony, superintendent of schools. "A joint effort among students, teachers, staff and parents to build on the

previous years' success produced unprecedented results from the elementary level through high school."

Campus performance has risen steadily throughout the last three years of TEA accountability ratings. This year, 63 out of 74 campuses (85 percent) were declared "Recognized" or "Exemplary;" in 2008, 49 out of 70 (70 percent) schools attained this status; and in 2007, 36 out of 67 (54 percent) received the two highest ratings.

The most notable increase came at CFISD's high school level, where 9 of 10 campuses (90 percent) were "Recognized," compared to 2 of 8 (25 percent) "Recognized" in 2008.

Visit the TEA website at www.tea.state.tx.us for a detailed listing of scores by campus.

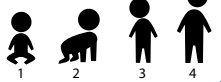


COLIN'S HOPE

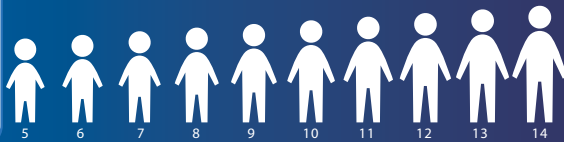
Increasing water safety awareness and standards

FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DROWNING

Drowning is the leading cause of unintentional injury-related death in children ages 1-4



DROWNING WILL AFFECT YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW



Drowning is the 2nd leading cause of unintentional injury-related death ages 1-14.

For more information, check out our website at

www.colinshope.org

DROWNING CAN STILL OCCUR EVEN IF YOU KNOW HOW TO SWIM

NO ONE is "drown proof" – no matter their level of swimming ability.

Falls, entrapments, and injuries lead to drowning regardless of swimming level.

A majority of people overestimate their own and their child's ability to swim, especially in a panic event.

DROWNING IS QUICK AND SILENT



Drowning occurs in as little as 2 minutes.



Irreversible brain damage occurs in as little as 4 minutes.



Most children are out of sight or missing for less than 5 minutes and usually in the presence of 1 or both parents.



Most children die who are submerged for as little as 6-10 minutes.

Children who drown do not **scream, splash, or struggle**. They silently slip beneath the water, even with adults & lifeguards present.

Lakes on Eldridge

Girl Scout Troops Now Forming!

Did you know that.....

- 80% of women executives/business owners were involved in Girl Scouts
- 68% of Congress women were Girl Scouts
- 64% of women listed in Who's Who of American Women report that they are Girl Scout alum

Who do you want the girl in your life to become?

From the very beginning Girls Scouts has been about developing leadership in girls. Scouting provides opportunities for girls to grow and discover, to develop and accomplish, to create and express, to take action and achieve, to stand up and lead.

Invest in your girl and join us on September 3rd, 7:00 pm at Kirk Elementary to explore the wonderful journey that is Girl Scouting. For more info, contact Linda Jordan at 713-896-7680 or ljordan1219@comcast.net.



BUNCO JUNKIES

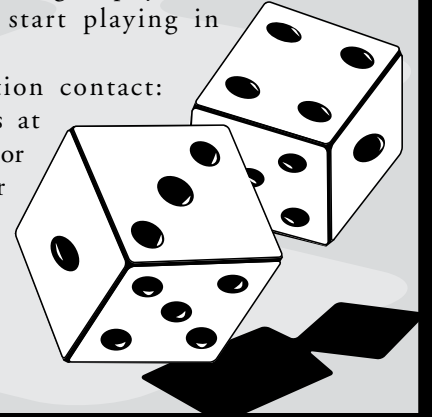
Members of Bunco Junkies meet & play at the LOE Beach Club House on the 1st Thursday of each month from 12 noon until 2 pm. We must have 12 Players each month to be able to play.

Please speak to your friends & neighbors and ask them to join us in this easy and fun game. Players do not have to be residents of Lakes on Eldridge to play.

We would like to start playing in September.

For more information contact:

Catherine Spellings at CTSpellings@aol.com or call 713-628-7083 or 713-896-1652



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meet our team

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Blandina Sison, MD
Marian Allan, MD
Anthony Yee-Young, MD
Diana Malone, MD
Shital Patel, MD
Heidi Nashed-Guirgis, MD
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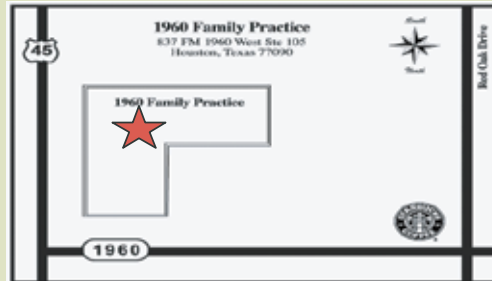
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Lakes on Eldridge

Stitch & Chat

Members of Stitch and Chat meet every Thursday from 10 a.m. until 12 noon at the LOE Beach Club House. We knit, crochet, needle pint, embroidery, counted cross stitch, mend items, and sew on buttons that we have put off much too long.

We make Quilts for family members, shawls for Cancer patients, caps for newborn babies.

We would love to have you join us for coffee and conversation. We would be happy to help you get started on any project that you have always wanted to do. You do not have to be a resident of the Lakes on Eldridge to join us.

For more information contact: Catherine Spellings at: CTSpellings@aol.com or call 713-628-7083 or 713-896-1652.

Lakes on Eldridge Bible Study Begins Fifth Year on September 15

What we say to one another reflects who we are, what we think, and what we want others to think of us. The Bible has much to say about how we as women are to use our words. We will be using *The Power of a Woman's Words* by Sharon Jaynes as our study guide. We shall see from Scriptures the power we possess, the people we impact, and the potential to make necessary changes. This should be an enlightening study. Study guides will be available for \$10.00 at the first meeting. The format for the meetings is fellowship from 9:15-9:30, study from 9:30-10:30, coffee break, and prayer requests from 10:45-11:30. On the first Tuesday each month we all go out for lunch. Prayer and fellowship help us to know one another and grow together. We hope you will join us. If you need more information email Stephanie at sableggett@sbcglobal.net.

The Lakes on Eldridge Fall Bible Study at the Beach Club at Lakes on Eldridge resumes Tuesday, September 15 at 9:15 AM. As you enter the communities at the security gate turn right at the stop sign and continue to the next stop sign and turn left. The Beach club is on the left. Hope to see you there!

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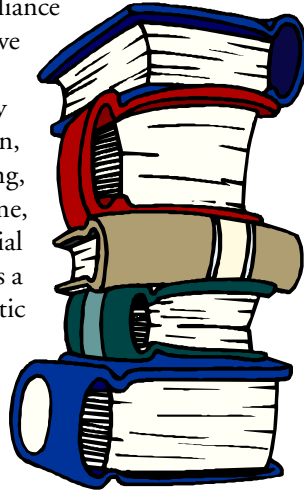
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LOE BOOK CLUB

Book club usually meets on the 4th Monday of each month at 7:30 P.M., however we have moved some of our upcoming dates around to fit our calendars. Join us for a little wine or coffee, some snacks, and stimulating discussion. We will again be meeting in various members' homes, so call or e-mail Celeste Fritz, 713-896-6942, celeste.fritz@gmail.com for location and additional information.

September 28 – *The Twentieth Wife* by Indu Sundaresan. An enchanting historical epic of grand passion and adventure, this debut novel tells the captivating story of one of India's most controversial empresses — a woman whose brilliance and determination trumped myriad obstacles, and whose love shaped the course of the Mughal Empire.

October 26 – *The Time Traveler's Wife* by Audrey Niffenegger. A dazzling novel in the most untraditional fashion, this is the remarkable story of Henry DeTamble, a dashing, adventuresome librarian who travels involuntarily through time, and Clare Abshire, an artist whose life takes a natural sequential course. Henry and Clare's passionate love affair endures across a sea of time and captures the two lovers in an impossibly romantic trap, and it is Audrey Niffenegger's cinematic storytelling that makes the novel's unconventional chronology so vibrantly triumphant.



Fall Into Fitness 5k/1k fun run

Please join The Branch School's Parents Association for our first annual Fall Into Fitness fun run/walk Sunday November 15, 2009 from 7am-9am at Bear Creek Park. There will be a stroller/kid 1k walk as well as a 5k walk/run for adults and older children. Help us raise money for education while having fun and promoting the benefits of exercise. All participants registered by November 1st will receive a t-shirt and goodie bag! Come join in on the food and fun, and bring the family! To register or get more information check out our link at www.thebranchschool.org or email pa@thebranchschool.org.



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Lakes on Eldridge

A Sensible Plan for College Funding

Submitted by Rich Keith

Previously we discussed that how you fund college expenses is divided naturally between using your money, and by using other peoples' money. This sounds simple but each scenario requires understanding of the long-term impacts. The first thing your financial coach should be asking you is about your strategy for funding. Are you willing to fund 2 years? 4 years? Graduate school too? Community college, public university or private?

In President Lincoln's time, the typical family chose only one promising male child to attend college. While these men often became very successful (witness William Henry Seward, Lincoln's Secretary of State), their other children were left out of the equation. Today's children are much luckier. Even so, ask the hard questions starting at or before your oldest child's 15th birthday. While they may tell you that attending a community college will deprive them of the college experience, consider what that college experience will cost in real dollars. And, getting into college as a junior is sometimes less competitive than entering as a freshman. Better yet, some community colleges have written agreements with universities on which classes are transferrable.

Importantly, parents need to figure out their college budget ahead of time and then discuss it with their child before he or she applies. In this way, colleges with the net cost above the predetermined budget can come off the list. The funding budget is made of a combination of moneys coming from your pre-tax accounts, regular (taxable) savings, and retirement accounts, to name a few. Several savings plans are available and many are tax-advantaged. Your financial professional and tax pro can help you here.

There are advantages and disadvantages to using your own money for college expenses. A detailed plan will reveal the opportunity cost of funding everything yourself. That's one reason why people turn to loans. Remember the power of using the IRS "tax scholarships" to help you maximize every dollar saved. Any time you can reduce your tax it's the same as a scholarship or grant. And the benefits to you increase as your tax bracket increases. Importantly, all educational tax strategies must be reviewed with your tax advisor in order to coordinate the interrelationship between tax, other financial aid and your family's overall financial plan for the future. Next month: more on tax scholarships.



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Have you ever bent over and had to freeze, afraid to straighten back up? Do you have to worry about the pain that comes from picking up your children, cleaning the house, or even just taking those first 2 or 3 steps in the morning? Have you been through the "cycle" of traditional back pain treatments (medication, physical therapy and steroid injections) only to end up in the same pain as when you started? Have you received the news that surgery is your last remaining option? Are you frustrated, feeling like there must be something else, something that carries less risk than surgery? If this story sounds familiar, then we have good news for you!

Latest FDA Approved Solution is Drug-Free and Non-Surgical

If you have serious back pain, we have a serious new alternative treatment option that carries a higher success rate than traditional treatments alone. This treatment is called Intervertebral Disc Decompression (IDD therapy). Good candidates for this procedure are people who may suffer from:

- Lower Back Pain
- Herniated Discs
- Neck Pain
- Degenerative disc disease
- Facet Syndrome
- Sciatic Leg Pain
- Bulging Discs
- Failed Back Surgery

Pain Free in 4-6 weeks

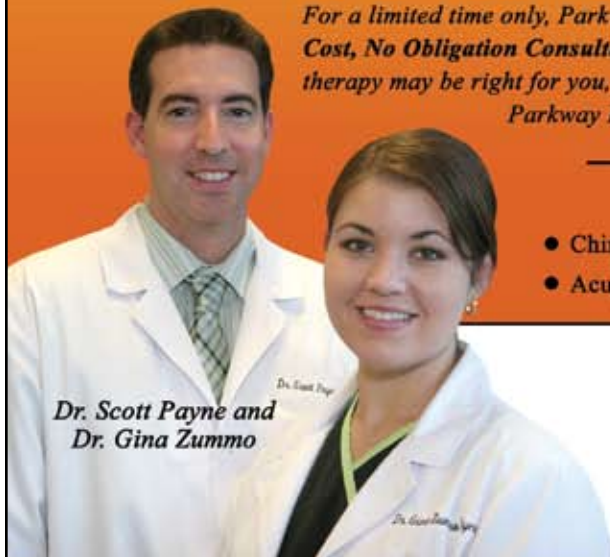
If you know what it's like to have serious back pain, this type of relief may seem miraculous. Our clinical experience tells us that relief is possible even for those patients that have failed with medication, physical therapy, injections and/or surgery.

How Does IDD Therapy Work?

To understand why this therapy succeeds where others fail, you first must understand why your back is not capable of healing on it's own. Muscles, bones and internal organs get a fresh supply of blood, oxygen and nutrients with each beat of the heart. However, spinal discs have no blood supply of their own and absorb what they need very slowly. If the discs have been compressed by injury, the effects of age or a sedentary lifestyle, they will remain compressed and will not have the ability to absorb the nutrition required for healing.

This revolutionary technology allows us to provide patients with computer monitored expansion of the discs through a slow and painless separation of the spinal vertebrae. This expansion improves the absorption of blood and nutrients which improves the healing response and patients may experience healing in their back, naturally.

For a limited time only, Parkway Family Chiropractic is offering a No Cost, No Obligation Consultation for IDD therapy. If you think IDD therapy may be right for you, or would like more information, call Parkway Family Chiropractic today!



*Dr. Scott Payne and
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Lakes on Eldridge



Eating to Live: 5 Foods You Should Eat Daily

Submitted by
Dr. Tenesah Weine

1. Spinach - Spinach is the best source of omega-3s (plant-based), and folate, both help reduce the risk of heart disease, stroke, and osteoporosis. Incorporate Spinach into your salads, add spinach to scrambled eggs, or drape it over pizza.

2. Blueberries - Blueberries have more antioxidants than any other North American fruit; blueberries help prevent cancer, diabetes, and age-related memory changes (they are nicknamed "brain berry"). Blueberries are rich in fiber and vitamins A and C, they also boost cardiovascular health. Aim for 1 cup fresh blueberries a day, or 1/2 cup frozen or dried. Stick them into yogurt, cereal, or a smoothie. Of course they are great alone!

3. Yogurt - Yogurt containing probiotics will boost your immune system by building the gut lining. One ailment I test for in my office is candid/yeast, when positive I treat with probiotics. Not all yogurts have probiotics, so make sure the label says "live and active cultures." Aim for 1 cup of the calcium and protein-rich yogurt a day. Avoid yogurts with high sugar content, goat yogurt is most preferred.

4. Walnuts - Walnuts are richer in heart-healthy omega-3s than salmon, loaded with more anti-inflammatory polyphenols than red wine, and packing half as much muscle-building protein as chicken. Other nuts combine only one or two of these features, not all three. A serving of walnuts - about 1 ounce, or 7 nuts--is good anytime, but especially as a post workout recovery snack. Walnuts are great sprinkled over a salad.

5. Tomatoes - Red are the best, because they're packed with more of the antioxidant lycopene, and processed tomatoes are just as potent as fresh ones, because it's easier for the body to absorb the lycopene. Diets rich in lycopene can decrease your risk of bladder, lung, prostate, skin, and stomach cancers, as well as reduce the risk of coronary artery disease. Aim for 22 mg of lycopene a day, which is about eight red cherry tomatoes or a glass of tomato juice.

Note: While eating blueberries and other fruits you want to eat them on an empty stomach. You may have heard people complaining - every time I eat watermelon I burp, when I eat durian my stomach bloats up, when I eat a banana I feel like running to the toilet. When you eat fruit with foods, the fruit mixes with the putrefying other food and produces gas, hence you will bloat!

When you eat fruit, it immediately wants to go straight through the stomach into the intestines, but it is prevented from doing so when other food is present in the stomach. Adding fruit to a meal causes the whole meal to rot, ferment and turn into acid. The moment fruit comes into contact with the food in the stomach and digestive juices, the entire mass of food begins to spoil.

This will not arise if you eat the fruit on an empty stomach. If you eat fruit on an empty stomach, or right before a meal, it will play a major role to detoxify your system. It supplies you with a great deal of energy for weight loss and other life activities.

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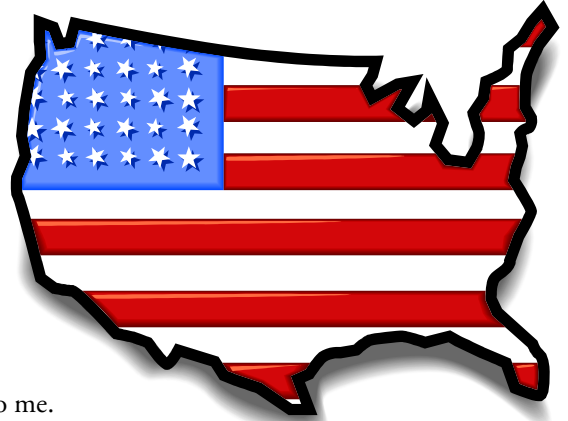
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Lakes on Eldridge

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- I believe in God and He is the Center of my Life.
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- I have a right to life, liberty and pursuit of happiness, but there is no guarantee of equal results.
- I work hard for what I have and I will share it with who I want to. Government cannot force me to be charitable.
- The government works for me. I do not answer to them, they answer to me.



If you agree with any or all of the statements above then come to
The Glenn Beck 9/12 Project Organizational
meeting for Cypress on July 9th at 7:00 pm.
Located at 15010 Mueschke Rd.

Get involved.

For more information, please call 281-373-9337.

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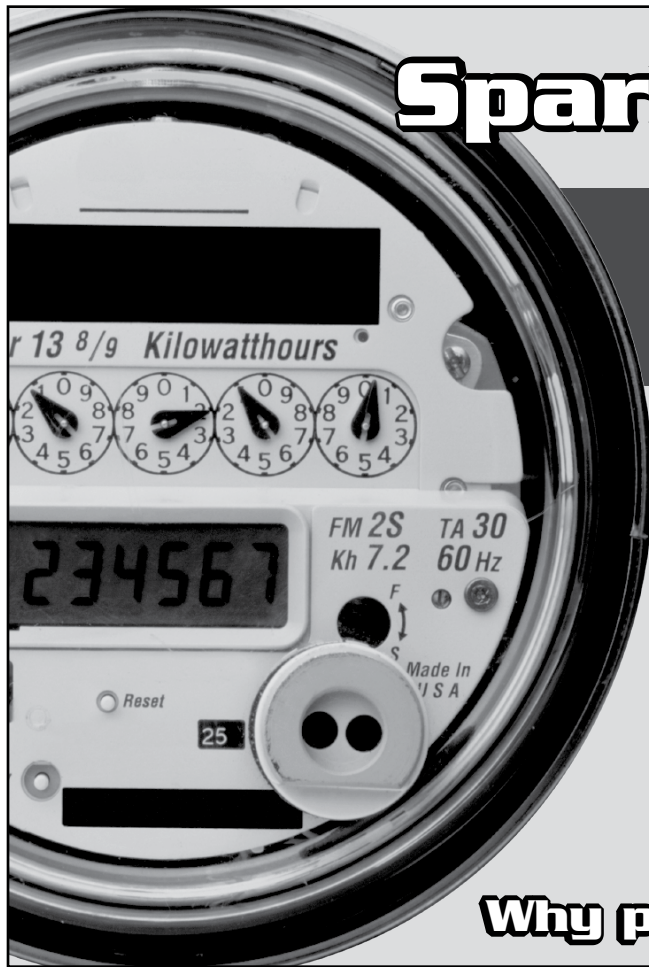
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Healthier Homes Improve Neighborhood Air Quality ... Fragrance Free Dryer Exhaust

By: Charlie & Michelle Bubnis

Have you ever been walking in the neighborhood enjoying the fresh air and then suddenly you are hit by the sweet fragranced smell of a heated artificial, petrochemical based scent from someone's clothes dryer exhaust? Often times a headache will occur, similar to people's reaction to perfumes worn in the office or at church. This is a normal protective reaction by the body as these fragrances are harmful neurotoxins and should be avoided whenever possible. National surveys found that at least 10% of the population reacts adversely to laundry products vented to the outdoors. Young children are particularly affected by fragranced chemicals because their body's detoxification mechanism is not fully developed.

Some of the most common chemicals used in fragranced laundry products are benzyl acetate, camphor, ethyl acetate, limonene and pentane. Many of these substances are capable of causing cancer, birth defects, central nervous system disorders, allergic reactions and chemical sensitivities. Some are on the EPA's hazardous waste list. According to a joint study by NIOSH and the U.S. House Subcommittee on Business Opportunities, 778 of the chemicals used in the chemical fragrance industry cause acute toxicity.

So the next time you are considering picking up a box of fragranced laundry detergent or fragranced dryer sheets... think about the impact on the neighborhood air quality and the proliferation of second hand scents. Healthier options could be: Add baking soda to the rinse cycle, or add ½ cup vinegar to the wash cycle to soften fabrics and reduce static cling. Vinegar is a natural fabric softener.

Do the neighborhood a favor and make sure your dryer exhaust doesn't pollute the environment. Be kind to yourself and to your neighbors, use unscented laundry products.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- <http://ehnca.org> – Fabric Softener = Health Risks from Dryer Exhaust and Treated Fabrics by Julia Kendall
- www.mcs-global.org – Could it be your Fabric Softener?
- www.physorg.com – Toxic Chemicals Found in Common Scented Laundry Products, Air Fresheners
- www.scorecard.org – enter your zip code and you can get information regarding air, water and chemical releases for your county



Fairbanks Library to Host Hurricane Preparedness Workshop

Harris County Public Library has partnered with the Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management to offer free "Ask the Experts" workshops on hurricane preparedness. The Fairbanks Branch Library at 7122 N. Gessner will host one of the workshops on Saturday, September 19, at 2:00 pm. These workshops are open to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend. Emergency Management experts will show you what items should be included in your disaster emergency kit and how to set up your supply checklist. They will also explain what steps you should take if you are ordered to evacuate, show you your evacuation routes, and give you helpful phone numbers that you will need in case of a hurricane. In addition, they will teach you how to make a disaster plan for your family and how you can best protect your family and home. For additional information, please call the Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management at (713) 881-3100.

WHO: Harris County Public Library – Fairbanks Branch
Harris County Office of Homeland Security and
Emergency Management

WHAT: Hurricane Preparedness Workshop

WHEN: Saturday, September 19, 2009 - 2 pm

WHERE: 122 N. Gessner (at W. Little York)
Houston, TX 77040
(713) 466-4438

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Lakes on Eldridge



Texas Events - September

- 1-13—HOUSTON:** Challenge VII: dysFUNctional & Unknitting: Challenging Textile Traditions Houston Center for Contemporary Craft presents two exhibitions that challenge the traditional uses of wood, textiles and other materials. www.crafthouston.org 713/529-4848
- 1-27—HOUSTON:** Cildo Meireles Brazilian artist is best known for visceral, room-size installations. Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. www.mfah.org 713/639-7300
- 1-Oct. 8—NASSAU BAY:** Flotsam & Jetsam Artists respond to Hurricane Ike in this open juried show. The Arts Alliance Center at Clear Lake. www.taaccl.org 281/335-7777
- 1-Oct. 24—ORANGE:** Pistols: Dazzling Firearms Fifty exceptional American firearms illustrate how art, historical events and popular culture have influenced the design and symbolism of decorative weaponry. Stark Museum of Art. 409/886-ARTS
- 1-Oct. 25—PORT ARTHUR:** Rauschenberg Tribute Exhibition The competition is open to artists who are 18 years or older and whose work is inspired by and/or reflective of Robert Rauschenberg. Museum of the . www.museumofthegulfcoast.org 409/982-7000
- 1-Nov. 10—CORPUS CHRISTI:** Erick Schaudies: A Retrospective This is an exhibition of works of art by the K Space Art Studios' co-founder, who passed away in May 2008. K Space Contemporary, 415 Starr St. www.kspacecontemporary.org 361/887-6834
- 8-20—HOUSTON:** Grease Theatre Under the Stars. Hobby Center for the Performing Arts. www.tuts.com 713/558-TUTS or 888/558-3882
- 10-20—HOUSTON:** Manon Modern classic, charts the romantic adventures of an irresistibly beautiful femme fatale and her one true love. Houston Ballet. Wortham Theater Center. www.houstonballet.org 713/523-6300
- 11—HOUSTON:** Bats on the Bayou Guided tour is guaranteed to be mesmerizing and informative. Meet at Allen's Landing. www.buffalobayou.org 713/752-0314 ext. 4
- 12—HOUSTON:** Museum District Day 2009 Features exhibitions, activities, demonstrations and performances. 4200 Montrose Blvd. www.houstonmuseumdistrict.org 713/790-1020
- 13—BAYTOWN:** Children's Festival at Yepez Vineyard Hours are noon to 5 p.m. Yepez Vineyard. www.yepezvineyard.com 281/573-4139 or 281/804-3401
- 13—HOUSTON:** Third Annual Fiestas Patrias This event features live cultural music, dancing, food and more. Traders Village. www.tradersvillage.com 281/890-5500
- 18—GALVESTON:** Smokey Robinson Features Robinson's timeless renditions of his hits. Begins at 8 p.m. The Grand 1894 Opera House. www.thegrand.com 800/821-1894
- 18—VICTORIA:** Victoria Country Opry Begins at 7 p.m. Jaycee Hall. 361/552-9347
- 18-Jan. 3—CORPUS CHRISTI:** Menudo: Chicano Art from the Cheech Marin Collection Art Museum of South Texas. www.ArtMuseumOfSouthTexas.org 361/825-3500
- 18-Jan. 3—CORPUS CHRISTI:** Texas Modern: The Rediscovery of Early Texas Abstraction (1935-1965) Exhibition surveys three critical decades of abstract art. Art Museum of South Texas. www.ArtMuseumOfSouthTexas.org 361/825-3500
- 19—CORPUS CHRISTI:** Anyone Can Be a Birder! Learn how to enter the world of birding and to improve beginning skills. South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center. www.stxbot.org 361/852-2100
- 19—HOUSTON:** Birding Walk & Talk Begins at 8:30 a.m. Sheldon Lake State Park. 281/456-2800
- 19—LEAGUE CITY:** Bluegrass Show Features bluegrass from the local and national scene. Begins at 6:30 p.m. Johnny Arolfo Civic Center. www.bayareabluegrass.org
- 19—PORT NECHES:** Trade Day on the Avenue Shop antiques, collectables, vintage and shabby chic decor. Port Neches Avenue. 409/722-4023
- 19—PORT O'CONNOR:** Centennial Celebration Includes food, entertainment, games, historical presentations and more. Port O'Connor Community Center, Hwy. 185. 361/983-2658
- 19-20—HOUSTON:** Catfish Festival Enjoy hot and spicy catfish and music. Traders Village. www.tradersvillage.com 281/890-5500
- 19-20—ORANGE:** National Speed Boat Races Includes three classes, food, fun and amusements. City Boat Ramp, Simmons Drive. www.orangetexas.org 409/883-1011
- 20—HOUSTON:** First Houston Doll Club 33rd Doll Show & Sale Includes dolls and doll-related items from antiques to modern. Marriott Hotel Hobby Airport. E-mail: carolyndol@aol.com 409/945-2796

(Continued on Page 20)





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| 2. Monitor operating pressures of refrigerant | 7. Inspect indoor blower wheel |
| 3. Inspect disconnect box for proper rating and installation | 8. Inspect indoor coil if accessible |
| 4. Test/inspect contactors for burned, pitted contacts | 9. Flush/treat condensate drain with anti-algae |
| 5. Test and inspect capacitors | 10. Measure temperature difference-supply/return |

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Lakes on Eldridge

Texas Events - (Continued from Page 18)

24-26—HOUSTON: Weaving & Beyond: Contemporary Handweavers of Houston 25th Annual Sale Includes handwoven, hand-spun, hand-dyed and hand-felted linens, garments, accessories, tapestries, rugs, baskets and more. Houston Center for Contemporary Craft. www.crafthouston.org 713/529-4848

24-Oct. 4—HOUSTON: Without Boundaries Houston Ballet's fall repertory program. Wortham Theater Center. www.houstonballet.org 713/523-6300

24-Jan. 3—HOUSTON: Joaquin Torres-Garcia: Wood Constructions The Menil Collection. www.menil.org 713/525-9400

25-27—HOUSTON: Der Rosenkavalier — Film & Music After seeing Wiene's film Der Rosenkavalier, Strauss adapted his opera score for it. Houston Symphony. Jones Hall, 615 Louisiana St. www.houstonsymphony.org

25-27—HOUSTON: 2009 Film & Video Festival Includes screenings of independent films, awards dinner, meet and greet, national and local television celebrities, and more. www.gulfcoastfilmfest.com 281/333-5804

25-27—HOUSTON: Italian Style Expo Includes food and wine tastings, luxury automobiles, runway shows, tourism seminars, replica Italian street market, language classes, musical concerts and

more. George R. Brown Convention Center. www.italianexpo.us 713/853-8089

26—HOUSTON: Seventh Annual Gospel Music Jubilee Features more than 15 performers from Southeast Texas. Traders Village. www.tradersvillage.com 281/890-5500

27—HOUSTON: Ninth Annual Volks in the Village Volkswagen Show Features show cars, vintage junkers, swap meet and vendors with VW memorabilia. Traders Village. www.nhvwclub.org 281/890-5500

29-Oct. 11—HOUSTON: Meet Me in St. Louis Theatre Under the Stars. Hobby Center for the Performing Arts. www.tuts.com 713/558-TUTS or 888/558-3882

30-Oct. 4—WINNIE: Texas Rice Festival Celebrates the rice harvest with family entertainment and down-home country flair. www.texasricefestival.org 409/296-4404

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.

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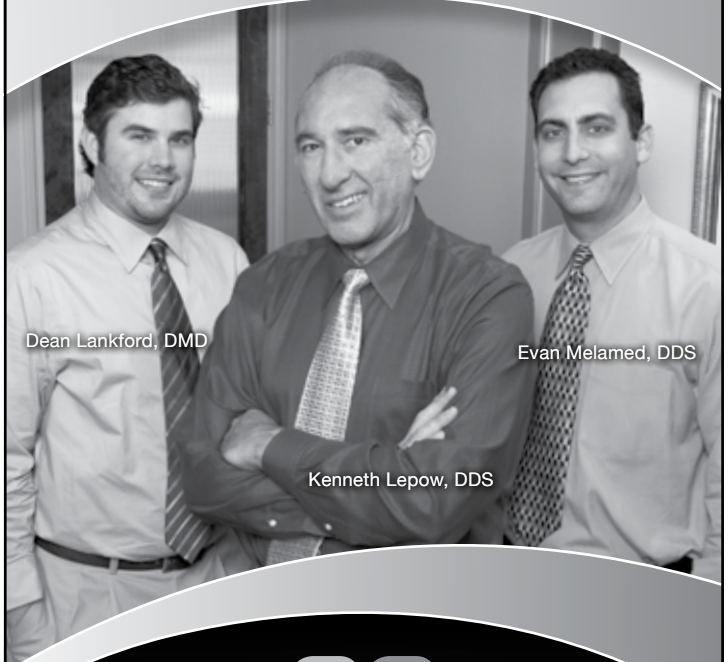
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It's Not Too Late to Get Organized for the New School Year

Submitted by Kelly Butcher

School has just begun and you probably feel like you are drowning in the sea of papers, activities, and homework. As a professional organizer, I work with a lot of busy families who need help setting up routines for handling the abundance of paper from school, the mail, and for getting homework done. I hope to offer a few suggestions about routines to set-up and implement to help you have smooth sailing through this school year.

SOME GENERAL SYSTEMS TO HAVE IN PLACE INCLUDE:

- Calendar
- Incoming papers
- Homework

A large wall calendar with room enough to write each family member's activities is a must. Display the calendar in a location easily accessed by all family members. If you track your calendar electronically, have a centrally located computer with easy access for all family members. Assign a color to each family member and color-code activities.

Papers consisting of incoming mail, school papers, both school work and items that require a response, and activity-related items (schedules, release forms, etc) are always an issue. Set up an action file system for handling the incoming paperwork such as a desktop hanging file organizer with files for each child or school. Teach your children to get into the habit of putting important papers or papers requiring a signature in a folder marked with "Mom" or "Dad". After you have signed the paper, either place the paper in a folder to return to school or have your child put

directly into their backpack. Also set up an archival system for the treasured school work that you want to save.

Fitting homework into our busy schedules is often difficult. Designate an area for your children to complete their work. For younger students, the kitchen table is probably where most of the homework is completed, so make sure all of the necessary supplies are available, so there is no excuse not to get started. I recommend using lidded plastic shoe-box size containers to hold markers, crayons, scissors, glue sticks, etc. Label the containers for ease in cleaning up. For older students who may complete their homework at a desk in their bedroom, ensure they have the necessary supplies available as well. A well-lit, clutter-free area away from distractions will help them stay focused on their work.

Establish a set time for homework to be completed. It may not be the same time every afternoon or evening based on after school activities. Look at the week ahead on Sunday evening and map out with your child the time they should complete their homework for each day based on that day's activities and mark it on the calendar.

Most importantly, help your child get into the habit of packing their backpack before they go to bed. That way during the morning rush, important papers and items needed for school will not be forgotten at home.

Remember that developing new habits requires consistency and time. Begin setting up and implementing new systems as soon as possible and this school year will be off to a great start!



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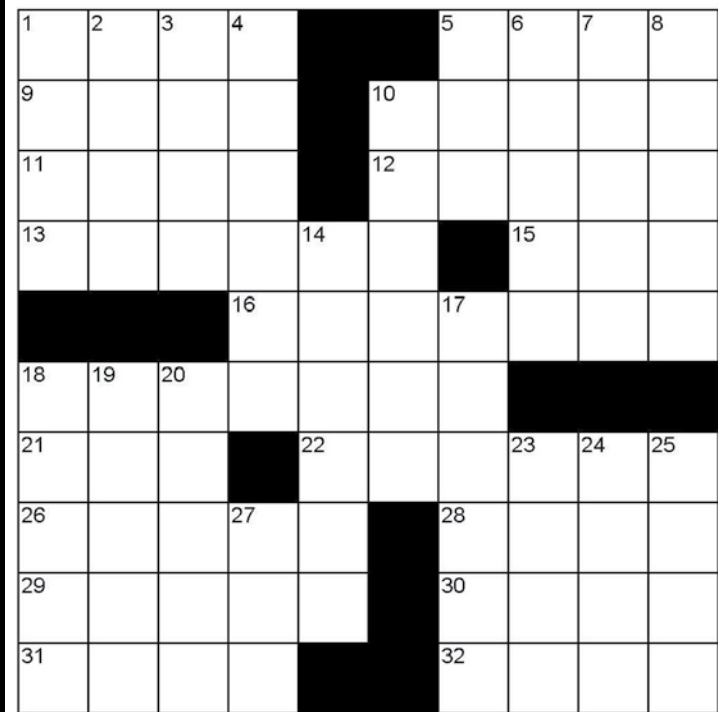
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Lakes on Eldridge

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1. Chunk
5. Tramp
9. Run
10. Confuse
11. Cain killed him
12. To that time
13. Fraud
15. Compass point
16. Taught
18. Hides
21. Brew
22. Large meals
26. Sheer, triangular scarf
28. Midwestern state
29. Electronic mail
30. First letter of the Arabic alphabet
31. September (abbr.)
32. Polish

DOWN

1. Attired
2. Earring need
3. Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries
4. Efface
5. Egg layer
6. Many times
7. Capital of Idaho
8. Eyed
10. Combustible material
14. Angry
17. Old Testament prophet
18. Fireproof storage areas
19. Climate
20. Summary
23. Fly alone
24. Matching
25. Secure
27. Whack

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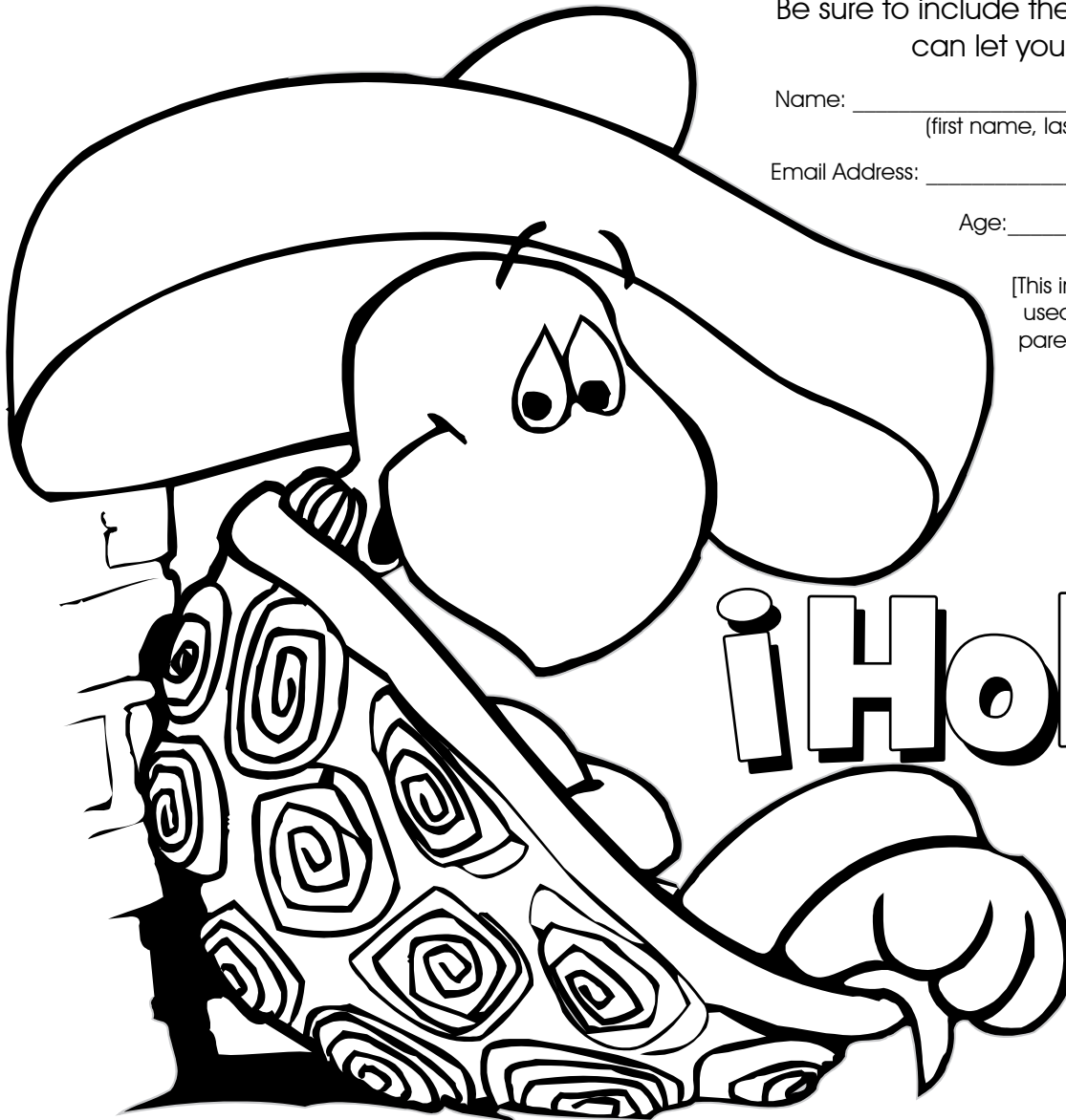
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Age: _____

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Average Price	\$479,282	\$338,266	\$409,392
Avg price / sq.ft.	\$124.59	\$96.56	\$105.30
Avg DOM	74	22	82
Low Price / sq.ft.			\$74.93
High Price / sq.ft.			\$132.99



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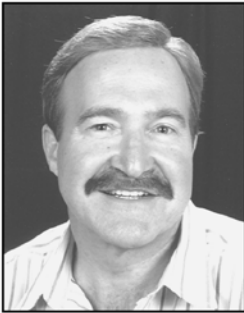
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