

PENINSULA PARK

Peninsula Park Apartments • 4855 West Fuqua • Houston, TX 77045

We're So Glad You're Here!

If you've recently joined our community, thank you for choosing Peninsula Park. We value every one of our residents! If you've been with us a while, we want you to know how much we appreciate your continued residency! It takes special people like you to make our community a great place to call home!

A Winning Combination!

Everyone wins when you tell a friend about Peninsula Park. Your friend will love the wonderful lifestyle we offer and we'll love welcoming a great new resident. **Best of all, you'll receive our Resident Referral Bonus!** Contact the Office to learn more about our great Resident Referral incentives.

We Want You to Stay!

We are proud to have you as a resident here at Peninsula Park. If your lease expires soon, we encourage you to extend your stay with us. We will continue to provide the superior service to which you've become accustomed. Please call or come by the Management Office today! You'll be glad you did!

Risk is a Four-Letter Word in Today's Economy

Even with the low interest rates, is it really a good time to buy a home? Taking on more debt than you can handle is never a good idea, but with today's tumultuous stock market and growing unemployment rates, it's especially important to be cautious with your money. Consumer indebtedness has reached an all-time high and mortgage loans significantly add to those numbers. Americans hold more than \$700 billion in home equity loans and have cashed out more than \$100 billion from their homes by refinancing. If you are considering buying a home, be careful about getting in over your head.

Pillow Talk

If counting sheep doesn't do the trick, maybe this will put you to sleep. The National Institutes of Health recommends that you:

- Avoid alcohol within two hours of going to bed.
- Avoid caffeine within six hours of bedtime. Tip: Some foods and medications contain caffeine (read your labels).
- Avoid smoking before bedtime.
- Exercise regularly, ideally in the late afternoon. Avoid strenuous exertion after 6 p.m.
- Make your bedroom snooze-worthy. Arrange for a comfortable temperature and minimum levels of sound, light and noise.
- Have a light carbohydrate snack before bedtime (e.g., crackers, graham crackers, milk or cheese), but avoid chocolate or large amounts of sugar and excessive fluids.

Quotes

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." —Martin Luther King, Jr.

"For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others." —Nelson Mandela



September 2020

Inside this issue

Tips for schooling at home
Eye care and COVID-19
Cast iron cooking and more.

Lifestyle

YOUR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Tracy Parker

Community Manager

DeAndrea Lancaster

Assistant Manager

Amanda Lopez

Leasing Consultant

Roberto Hernandez

Lead Maintenance

Carlos Cruz

Assistant Maintenance

Rufus Cyrus

Maintenance Technician

Maria Colin

Housekeeper

Cearena Oliver & Tarsha Marcellus

Resident Activity Coordinators

OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday

8:30 am–5:30 pm

Saturday

10:00 am–4:00 pm

Sunday

Closed

CONTACT DIRECTORY

Management Office

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Office Fax

(713) 433-3131

After Hours Maintenance

(866) 363-9872

Courtesy Patrol

(866) 363-9872

Manager's E-Mail

peninsula@allied-orion.com

Community Website

www.peninsulaparkapts.com

Facebook Keyword

www.facebook.com/peninsulaparkapts



ALLIED ORION GROUP



Tips for tackling the homeschool challenge

It's unclear whether all schools will reopen in the fall, but many parents are concerned enough about the spread of the coronavirus to keep their children home no matter what. Homeschooling can be a challenge, as many have already learned. The Insider website shares these tips from experts on how to educate kids at home and retain your sanity while you do it:

- **Set up a schedule.** Children do best when they have a consistent, reliable routine to follow. Schedule a few activities for the same time every day so they know what to expect. Put up a board with a daily schedule so it's easy for everyone to keep track.

- **Create a dedicated learning space.** Set off a portion of your home for school activities. This will help keep kids free from distractions and focus on their lessons.

- **Take breaks.** Don't try to schedule every minute of every day. Keep learning blocks to 30-50 minutes, and allow kids to relax and play between education-related activities. Feel free to take a day off every now and again so everyone can refresh and recharge.

- **Get outdoors.** If you have a nearby park, use it as an outdoor classroom. Have children collect leaves and stick, study birds and insects, learn about trees, plants, and flowers, and enjoy a little unstructured play.

- **Try some nontraditional schooling.** Math and science are important, but children can learn in lots of different ways. Involving them in baking and cooking, for example, can teach them about measurements and fractions. Older kids can help you with projects like building a bookshelf or changing a tire.



Homemade treatment for a set grease stain

An easy fix for a grease spot on your pants is grease-cutting dish detergent... if you get to it fast enough. But what if you couldn't get to it right away and that tiny puddle on your pants has set for a while (like for a day, a week, after a regular wash and dry)?

Here's what you do: Soak the grease spot with a good squirt of dish detergent. Then take a finger full of cornstarch and rub that into the soapy detergent. Try not to use too much cornstarch. You want to use just enough so that it combines with the dish detergent and forms a smooth thin paste in the surface. Let set for 15 minutes, then wash as usual. The stain should be gone.



Protect your eyes during the outbreak

Will your eyewear help keep you safe from the coronavirus? Maybe, if you treat it right. *U.S. News & World Report* offers some guidelines on how to wear your glasses and contact lenses effectively during the pandemic:

- **Contacts vs. glasses.** While some people are switching to eyeglasses, the American Optometric Association says there's no evidence that wearing contacts lenses increases one's risk of COVID-19 infection. Still, make sure to wash your hands thoroughly before inserting and removing your lenses, clean them properly, and don't touch your eyes while wearing them. If you develop cold- or flu-like symptoms, stop wearing them immediately.

- **Clean your glasses daily.** Clean your glasses every day, using soap, water, and a microfiber lens cloth—not a paper towel or corner of your shirt, which can scratch your lenses. Hand-wash microfiber cloths regularly with a gentle soap and hang them up to dry.

- **Don't set glasses down carelessly.** Placing them on a desk, table, or bar can be risky if the surface isn't clean. If you must take your glasses off, put them into a clean case.

- **Avoid string holders.** Hanging glasses around your neck can expose the interior of the lenses to droplets in the air, bringing them too close to your eyes and face. Again, store them in a case until you need them again.

cooking with **CAST IRON**

Tired of wimpy, scratched non-stick pans? Maybe it's time to think cast iron skillets.

This is the skillet used over outdoor fires for centuries and it's still used by great chefs.

Cast iron cooks evenly, goes from stovetop to oven, and will last a lifetime.

Proper seasoning of a new skillet will give cast iron a natural, smooth, non-stick surface. Here's how Lodge Cast Iron says you should do it:

Step 1: Scrub the pan with warm, soapy water. It's okay to use soap since you're preparing to re-season the cookware. Rinse and hand dry thoroughly.

Step 2: Apply a very thin, even layer of cooking oil to the cookware (inside and out). Use an oil with a high smoke point like vegetable oil, melted shortening, or canola oil. Note: If you use too much oil, your cookware may become sticky.

Step 3: Bake for 1 hour Place the cookware in the oven upside down. Place a large baking sheet or aluminum foil on the bottom rack. Bake at 450-500 degrees F for one hour. Allow to cool.

Use tip: After cooking, empty the pan and let it cool on the stove. Wash with dish soap and water. Rinse thoroughly. Dry with a towel. Rub on a thin coat of oil and store with a paper towel inside. Never put cast iron in a dishwasher.



Cast Iron Skillet Pizza

Ingredients

- 10 oz. ball of pizza dough, risen at room temperature*
- All-purpose flour for dusting
- Cornmeal for dusting
- 1/3 cup marinara sauce
- 2 medium tomatoes
- 1 1/2 cup grated mozzarella
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan
- 4 tsp chopped fresh basil
- Kosher salt
- Fresh ground pepper

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 500°F.
2. Place dough on a lightly floured surface.
3. Gently spread dough out with fingertips and sides of your hands, keeping as much air in the outer/crust edge as possible.
4. Stretch dough into a 10-inch circle. (Alternatively roll out with a rolling pin.)
5. Sprinkle semolina lightly in the bottom of a 12-inch cast iron skillet.
6. Lay pizza dough out in the prepared skillet.
7. Spread marinara over the pizza dough, leaving a border for the crust.
8. Sprinkle with mozzarella cheese.
9. Lay tomato slices on top of cheese layer, and then finish with grated Parmesan.
10. Place the skillet on in the hot oven and cook pizza for 10 minutes.
11. Rotate pan and continue cooking for another 10 to 15 minutes or until crust is golden brown and cheese is bubbling and golden.
12. Slide pizza onto cutting board with a spatula.

*To let dough rise, portion 10 oz. ball of dough. Round with two hands by pressing into the work surface and spinning the dough in place. This will tighten the surface of the dough. Place on a surface dusted with flour and cover with plastic wrap that has been coated with cooking spray. Let rise 40 to 90 minutes before stretching out in step 2.

Trivia Teaser: Here Kitty Kitty



1. Which cartoon character made his debut in the 1945 Warner Bros. cartoon short "Odor-able Kitty"?

- A. Speedy Gonzales,
- B. Pepe Le Pew,
- C. Sylvester the Cat,
- D. Woody Woodpecker.

2. What was the name of the saloon owned by Miss Kitty Russell on the long-running TV western series "Gunsmoke"?

- A. Long Branch,
- B. Silver Palace,
- C. Lucky Number,
- D. Golden Nugget.

3. Which actress won an Academy Award for Best Actress as the title character in the 1940 movie "Kitty Foyle"?

- A. Carole Lombard,
- B. Ginger Rogers,
- C. Barbara Stanwyck,
- D. Laraine Day.

4. Which Japanese company introduced Hello Kitty in 1974?

- B. Shangri-La,
- B. Haribo,
- C. Sega,
- D. Sanrio.

5. Singer-actress Kitty Carlisle was a regular panelist on which TV game show from 1956 to 1978?

- A. "What's My Line?,"
- B. "I've Got a Secret,"
- C. "To Tell the Truth,"
- D. "The Match Game."

6. Kitty Hawk and Antares were the nicknames of the lunar modules on which NASA mission?

- A. Apollo 14,
- B. Apollo 15,
- C. Apollo 16,
- D. Apollo 17.

7. In Leo Tolstoy's novel, "Anna Karenina," who was the older sister of Kitty?

- A. Jane,
- B. Dolly,
- C. Lizzy,
- D. Lydia.

8. Which sitcom character owned a plush cat called Boo Boo Kitty?

- A. Shirley Feeney,
- B. Chrissy Snow,
- C. Blossom Russo,
- D. Sheldon Cooper.

9. Played by Ophelia Lovibond, Kitty Winter was a wannabe detective on which TV series?

- A. "Kolchak: The Night Stalker,"
- B. "Monk,"
- C. "Pysch,"
- D. "Elementary."

10. Which word completes the title of the 2010 movie comedy sequel: "Cats and Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty ___"?

- A. Hawk,
- B. Kat,
- C. Galore,
- D. Litter.

1-b, Pepe Le Pew; 2-a, Long Branch; 3-b, Ginger Rogers; 4-d, Sanrio; 5-c, "To Tell the Truth"; 6-a, Apollo 14; 7-b, Dolly; 8-a, Shirley Feeney; 9-d, "Elementary"; 10-c, Galore

	sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
			1 RENT DUE	2 <i>September is Friendship Month</i>	3 <i>Skyscraper Day</i>	4 <i>Lazy Mom's Day</i>	5 <i>Kentucky Derby</i>
6 <i>Pet Rock Day</i>	7 <i>Labor Day</i> OFFICE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY!	8 <i>Star Trek Day</i>	9 <i>National Teddy Bear Day</i>	10 <i>Alpaca Day</i>	11 <i>Patriot Day</i>	12 <i>Video Games Day</i>	
13 <i>Grandparents Day</i>	14 <i>September is Suicide Prevention Month</i>	15 <i>World Afro Day</i>	16 <i>Stepfamily Day</i>	17 <i>Locate an Old Friend Day</i>	18 <i>Hug Your Boss Day</i>	19 <i>Eat an Apple Day</i>	
20 <i>Pepperoni Pizza Day</i>	21 <i>World Gratitude Day</i>	22 <i>Doodle Day</i>	23 <i>September is Hispanic Heritage Month</i>	24	25 <i>Hug a Vegetarian Day</i>	26 <i>Forget-Me-Not Day</i>	
27 <i>Ancestor Appreciation Day</i>	28 <i>Good Neighbor Day</i>	29 <i>VFW Day</i>	30 <i>Ask a Stupid Question Day</i>	<h1>Sept. '20</h1>			