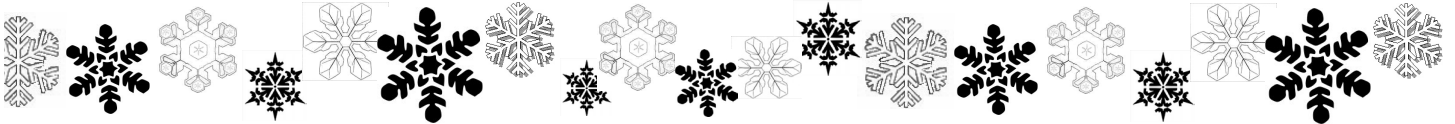




# Neighborhood News

News and information for the residents of Wells Branch.  
Vol 20, Issue 1, January, 2011



## It's that time again! By Debby Thompson, WBNA President

Time to renew your Wells Branch Neighborhood Association membership. Memberships run from January 1 to December 31. So, start your new year off right – rejoin! Household membership is only \$20.

Think of your WBNA membership as a second insurance policy on your home. Your primary insurance protects you from weather, fire, and physical damage while your WBNA membership helps to protect the value of your home by keeping you informed about neighborhood crime, proposed developments that might affect the value of your home (i.e. housing, toll road construction, school boundary changes) and community events.

We monitor crime statistics, have a very active neighborhood watch program, maintain an excellent relationship with the sheriff's department and much more to insure our members know what is happening. We were instrumental in getting Travis County on SpotCrime so that each and every one of you could have the option of receiving daily reports about criminal activity in Wells Branch.

A WBNA board member attends MUD board meetings every month to stay informed on governmental activities that might affect your family or home.

In addition, The WBNA sponsors many events each year that improve the neighborhood and foster a greater sense of community between you and your neighbors. The annual Easter Egg Hunt, Fourth Fest Silent Auction, National Night Out, Luminary Fest (Friday night), numerous safety seminars including several meetings with the deputies from Travis County who work this area, and, in conjunction with the MUD, a new Kids Summer Safety seminar, Alive at 25, and Don't Become a Victim. In addition, we hosted a meeting with the Natural Gardener, John Dromgoole, on composting last spring.

Last, but certainly not least, the WBNA Neighborhood News (six issues per year) and our website, [wbna.us](http://wbna.us),

provide you with the latest information on what's going on in our community.

All of these activities are funded through membership, advertising in the newsletter and proceeds from the silent auction. Sometimes we're stretched a little thin. While you receive all the benefits of having an active neighborhood association for free, your \$20 membership really does make a difference in what we can provide. There's a membership form on the back page and a printable version on the website.

Can we count on you to help this year?

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# CLASSIFIED ADS

**HANNAH'S PETSITTING: \$11/day for 1 pet, to water, walk, feed & play with your pet twice a day. References available. Call 922-3853.**

## WINTER ALLERGY SOLUTIONS

One fifth of all Americans suffer from allergies affecting the sinuses and lungs. During the winter, everyone is trying hard to keep the house warm and closed off from the outside air. Unfortunately, that also seals up the indoor atmosphere where certain pollutants can irritate allergies. These pollutants include dust mites, pets and mold. The way to eliminate the irritation caused by these things is usually as simple as removing the source. The room you most need to focus on is the room you sleep in. Here are a few tips to help keep the sneezing and sniffing to a minimum this winter.

- Keep your house properly ventilated and get fresh air on a regular basis.
- Keep upholstered furniture to a minimum in your bedroom and vacuum it frequently.
- Cover your mattress, pillows and box springs with an impermeable covering. Dust mites thrive in bedding.
- Unclutter the room as much as possible to keep down dust and dust mites.
- Vacuum and dust as frequently as you possibly can. Have someone who is NOT allergy-prone do this, since these activities can really aggravate allergies.
- Try to keep your bedroom uncarpeted. Dust mites love carpeting, and even vacuuming twice a week can't combat them.
- Keep pets out of the bedroom.
- Avoid high humidity. Run humidifiers only when the heater is running.
- Don't run humidifiers in the room with the door closed.
- Use super-fine furnace filters and change them frequently (at least once a month).

Source: [www.allabouthome.com](http://www.allabouthome.com)

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## TOP 10 NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS

Submitted by Gus Kohn

New Years is the only holiday that celebrates the passage of time looking back to the past, and more importantly, forward to the coming year. Perhaps that's why, as the final seconds of the year tick away, we become introspective. Inevitably, that introspection turns to thoughts of self-improvement and the annual ritual of making resolutions, which offer the first of many important tools for remaking ourselves. It's a time to reflect on the changes we want (or need) to make and resolve to follow through on those changes. Did any of your 2011 resolutions make our top ten list?

### 1. Lose Weight and Get in Better Physical Shape

Over 66 percent of adult Americans are considered overweight or obese by recent studies, so it is not surprising that weight loss continues to be one of the most popular New Year's resolutions. Setting reasonable goals and staying focused are the two most important factors in sticking with a weight loss program, and the key to success for those millions of Americans who made a New Year's commitment to shed extra pounds.

About 1 in 5 people have "pre-diabetes," and even more go undiagnosed. Type 2 diabetes can be prevented by making small changes in diet.

Unless you make a resolution to get fit – you're never going to be fit – ever. The choice is yours; it begins by opting for the stairs instead of the elevator, fruit in place of chocolate, and active rather than sedentary activities.

Regular exercise has been associated with multiple health benefits. Studies show that it reduces the risk of some cancers, increases longevity, helps achieve and maintain weight loss, enhances mood, lowers blood pressure, and

*See Top 10 on page 6*

**Like a Good  
Neighbor,  
State Farm  
is there!**



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online: www.txxhomes4u.info



**Please contact me for your real estate needs and let me put my knowledge of WB to work for you!**



## EXERCISE IN DISGUISE

Submitted by Cassi Wortham

What is Zumba? It is "exercise in disguise." The Zumba® Fitness program fuses hypnotic Latin rhythms and easy-to-follow moves to create a one-of-a-kind fitness program where you can burn between 500 - 1000 calories in one hour.

Zumba was created when fitness instructor Beto Perez went to teach his aerobics class and found out the usual music was unavailable. This resourceful dance instructor grabbed some of his favorite tunes from his car, to include salsa, merengue, reggaeton, and other songs with international flavor. Presto! A new fitness craze was born. Zumba is now taught in 90,000 locations throughout 110 countries, including right here in Wells Branch!

If you feel like you have two left feet, or haven't been in the gym in a while, this class is perfect for you. The steps are simple and repeated often for quick learning, the music is full of energy and you forget you are working out.

Join your neighbors at the Wells Branch Rec Center Gym for an exciting hour of calorie-burning, body-energizing, awe-inspiring movements meant to engage and captivate for life! Call the MUD at (512) 251-9814 or visit [www.wellsbranchmud.com](http://www.wellsbranchmud.com) for class times and more info. Be sure to wear comfortable clothes, supportive athletic-type shoes; bring a towel and water bottle.

Ready to get fit for the New Year, but not quite sure how to do it? The MUD has many options available to help you out. Check out their website for info on AquaFit, Yoga and Abs & Toning classes.

## ADVERTISING AND ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Do you have a business or service you would like to advertise? Have an article of interest to other WB residents? If so, please contact Pam at [wbnanews@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wbnanews@sbcglobal.net) for other information.

Publication is not guaranteed, and all article submissions are subject to editing. All ads must be pre-paid. Please note that it is the policy of the WBNA not to publish political ads of any kind.

The deadline to receive ad payments, ad materials and article submissions for the March/April issue is March 4. Ad rates may be found at [www.wbna.us](http://www.wbna.us).

## Neighbors inNEED

### A loving hand to take care of small needs around your home.

Wells Branch Community Church would like to help with some of the needs in our community. Some of us may be reaching an age that makes it difficult to do work around our home. Others are suffering from medical conditions that render it difficult to take care of things that were once routine.

We are here to help.

**Please call 512-775-2660**



# 2011

## TIME TO RENEW YOUR WBNA MEMBERSHIP



**Please see page 12  
and send in your  
membership form.**



## February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

*Learn some of the warning signs  
and dynamics of abusive relationships*

**Love is trusting-** It isn't keeping tabs with obsessive calls & texting

**Love is secure-** It isn't being jealous, suspicious or paranoid

**Love is accepting-** It isn't telling someone what to do, what to wear, or how to act

**Love is freedom-** It isn't about possessing anyone or anything

**Love should be fun & exciting-** Trust yourself, if things don't feel right, chances are, they're not. For more information on teen dating violence, signs to watch for and how you can help or get help, visit: [safeplace.org](http://safeplace.org), [seeitandstopit.org](http://seeitandstopit.org), [loveisrespect.org](http://loveisrespect.org) or call 512-267-SAFE or 1-866-331-9474. Additional information is available on our website at [wbna.us](http://wbna.us) under "Safety". Last February, and again in November, we sponsored teen dating violence seminars. If you would be interested in attending an educational seminar on this subject, or having one tailored to your teen's peer group, please contact me and we can set something up with the Travis County Sheriff's Office. This is a great seminar for athletic clubs, choir, band - anywhere you have a group of teens. Debby Thompson 656-0654 or [Deborah\\_Thompson@earthlink.net](mailto:Deborah_Thompson@earthlink.net)

## WELLS BRANCH'S GOT TALENT

What's your talent? The WB MUD is inviting all residents to come share their gifts with our community and take part in the second annual talent show.

If you live in Wells Branch, start putting your group together now or plan your solo act. Residents of all ages with any type of talent are encouraged to participate on January 29, starting at 6pm in the Rec. Center located at 3000 Shoreline Drive.

Prizes and trophies will be awarded for:

- Best Individual Performance
- Best Group Collaboration
- Judge's Pick
- Audience's Pick

Admission is free for spectators and all performances will require a \$5 entry fee. Registration begins in December and space is limited. For questions, please contact the recreation manager at 251-9814.

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## COME ONE COME ALL TO ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTIONS

All residents are invited and encouraged to attend the annual WBNA meeting on Thursday, January 27, 7pm at the Community Center on Klattenhoff. Look for details on the speaker and topic of discussion at: [www.wbna.us](http://www.wbna.us).

WBNA officer elections will follow the discussion. Current board members are willing to continue to serve the neighborhood with their time and talent in 2011, they are:

- President – Debby Thompson
- Vice-President – Lara Bennett
- Secretary – Rachel LeBansky
- Treasurer – Mike Howe
- Editor – Pam Wachholz
- Community Liaison – Tom Cheshire

Many thanks to our nominating committee members: Tom Cheshire, Salvador Aguirre and Madonna Johnson. We hope to see you on the 27th!

## WB RESIDENTS HAVE ACCESS TO CRIME-FIGHTING TOOLS

CitizenObserver, a web based notification toolset for law enforcement, enables citizens to receive and respond to text, email, and web alerts from the Travis County Sheriff's Office.

SpotCrime, our newest tool, allows residents to sign up for daily messages to be sent to their cell and/or email with a list of crimes that occurred the previous day. Residents can choose to receive information on criminal activity within a 1, 2, 5, or 10 mile radius of their homes. Register to receive FREE daily updates at [www.spotcrime.com](http://www.spotcrime.com).

For more information about both of these informative tools, visit [www.wbna.us](http://www.wbna.us).

Many thanks to WBNA President, Debby Thompson for her tenacity in bringing SpotCrime to Travis County residents.



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(Residents of Wells Branch)  
**Shelly Chicoine Hogan, D.C.**  
**Nicole Chicoine Edwards, D.C.**

## Happy Holidays

### \$50 Invitation to Good Health

**Includes a 20 minute therapeutic massage**

You get an initial consultation, exam, x-rays if necessary, and a consultation to discuss the results.

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*Our Family Has Been Serving Your Family Since 1989.*

**Email us at [Chicoinechiro@att.net](mailto:Chicoinechiro@att.net) to get on our Monthly Newsletter for Health Tips from the Doctor**

*The following article is the sixth installment on Community Safety by Travis County Sheriff Outreach Deputy James Kitchens.*

## **AVOID CONFRONTATIONS WITH INTRUDERS**

Develop the habit of surveying your home as you approach it. If you note evidence that someone has broken in, **DO NOT ENTER**. Go to the nearest telephone and call 9-1-1. Should you confront a burglar, the very first rule is: **GET OUT OF HIS WAY!!** Never get between a burglar and the exit, and never try to stop him. It may cost you your life!

If you are in your home and someone is prowling outside, make it appear that several people are at home. For example, call to someone, "Dan, there's something outside." Dial 9-1-1, and if it is dark, turn on the lights. If an intruder has already broken in, retreat and put other doors between the two of you. It is a good idea to have a deadbolt on an interior door. If you cannot get out, try to signal a neighbor by throwing something through a window; just the noise may frighten a burglar away.

If someone should enter your bedroom while you are in bed, pretend that you are asleep as long as he does not come near you.

If the intruder is armed, do what he says, and see that children do so as well. Remain calm - intruders

generally want your property rather than your life.

Memorize a description of the intruder and write it down immediately after he has left; then call 9-1-1. Don't depend on memory.

Law enforcement officers are available to meet with individual Neighborhood Watch Groups and train members on a variety of topics, including: home security measures; recognizing suspicious activity; describing and reporting events, vehicles and persons; telephone security; and confrontation with intruders. For more information about setting up a Neighborhood Watch in your area, contact Debby Thompson at 990-3693, 656-0654, [deborah\\_thompson@earthlink.net](mailto:deborah_thompson@earthlink.net) or Tom Cheshire at 913-3144, [tcheshire@wellsbranchmud.com](mailto:tcheshire@wellsbranchmud.com).

Deputy Kitchens is also available for detailed security inspections of your home. He may be reached at 854-8413 or [james.kitchens@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:james.kitchens@co.travis.tx.us).

Watch for upcoming safety seminars by the Travis County Sheriff's Office hosted by the Wells Branch Neighborhood Association. Check our website for updates: [www.wbna.us](http://www.wbna.us)





WHAT IF THIS YEAR WAS DIFFERENT?

WHAT IF CHURCH WAS DIFFERENT?

WHAT IF YOU COULD EXPLORE GOD AT YOUR OWN PACE?

WHAT IF YOU COULD ASK QUESTIONS?

WHAT IF YOUR NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS WERE THERE?

1461 Wells Port Dr.

Sunday Service @ 10:45<sup>AM</sup>

WellsBranchChurch.com

## AN AMAZING LUMINARY FEST

The beauty of the lights and the joy of everyone in the neighborhood coming together to share a little holiday spirit is one of the things that makes Wells Branch so special. It was exciting to see all the different groups working together for the community and the magic of the season in the adults as well as the children. All had a glow about them.

Thanks so much to all of you who made Luminary Fest happen. Please see [www.wbna.us](http://www.wbna.us) for a complete list of everyone who made the weekend possible. Turn to page 8 for a few photos from the weekend and log on to our website for even more pictures!

Enjoy Wells Branch—  
Get to know your  
neighbors!

*Top 10 from page 2*

even improves arthritis. In short, exercise keeps you healthy and makes you look and feel better. Why not make this the time to start getting in shape.

### 2. Stick to a budget

Developing and sticking to a realistic budget is a brilliant offensive move as it prevents overspending and ensures peace of mind.

Many people find it very difficult to stick to a budget. It does take hard work and a lot of self-discipline, at least in the beginning. The good news is that most people find the longer they can stick to a budget, the easier it becomes.

### 3. Reduce your debt

Was money a big source of stress in your life last year? Join the millions of Americans who have resolved to spend this year getting a handle on their finances. It's a promise that will repay itself many times over in the year ahead.

One of the first things you have to do before any debt can be eliminated is to stop using charge accounts. If you continue to use the accounts, you are only fueling the problem and making it worse, not solving it.

Make a resolution now to stop charging anything and to get financially stable. If you can't pay cash for it, you don't need it, make it just that simple and you will find

*See Top 10 on page 7*

yourself out of debt in no time at all.

Keep a diary of all money spent, whether it is by cash, check, credit card, etc. Once you know where your money is going, then, and only then, can you take the steps needed to prepare a good budget that you can live with and make huge strides to budgeting your debt away.

#### **4. Enjoy more quality time with family & friends**

More and more people are resolving to spend more quality time with family and friends this year. This means you must consciously decide to actively and purposely work on improving your relationships every day.

You may need to do such things as reschedule business activities to make time for your kids, help your children set and achieve worthwhile goals, and setting aside an hour a day for the family, every day.

Starting right now, you can begin to make choices and take day-to-day actions that will create nothing short of a phenomenal family. You can choose to have one if you just resolve to do it and know where to put your focus. Making our families stronger and healthier is important to our communities, our state and our world.

Recent polls conducted by General Nutrition Centers, Quicken, and others shows that more than 50% of Americans vowed to appreciate loved ones and spend more time with family and friends this year.

Make plans to meet up with friends for an evening of camaraderie at a favorite restaurant or take the family to a local popular place for family fun. Work shouldn't always come first!

#### **5. Enjoy life more**

Given the hectic, stressful lifestyles of millions of Americans, it is no wonder that "enjoying life more" has become a popular resolution in recent years. It's an important step to a happier and healthier you! Consider one of Austin's holistic healing centers for products designed to bring balance to your body, mind and soul. Or just get out and try something new! Take up a new hobby or sport. Go to a theater performance, or head to the local spa. Austin offers a wealth of artistic and recreational activities to meet just about anyone's wishes.

#### **6. Quit smoking**

Becoming a non-smoker is probably one of the best decisions you can ever make, and is a life changing as well as a life saving decision. Smoking is the No. 1 cause of preventable death. People who quit smoking are most successful when they use many different tools and get support.

The benefits to your health, relationships, finances, vitality, the environment and to your sense of self-esteem for having conquered a really hard-to-kick habit will make any and all of your efforts and determination more than worth while. The resolution to become a non-smoker will also help you to live longer and enjoy the finer things in life.

If you have resolved to make this the ~~year~~ *year that you* page 8



### **REMINDER: WATER WISELY**

Winter Wastewater Averaging continues thru February 16, 2011. For details on winter averaging, pipe protection during freezing weather, and links to other sites for more water conservation tips, please see our website at [www.wbna.us](http://www.wbna.us).

# KUDOS

Thanks to all of you who delivered our Holiday Issue. We had great turnouts at the annual Wells Branch holiday events: the Thanksgiving Potluck – in its new home at the Rec. Center and Luminary Fest. Thanks for getting the WBNA Neighborhood News out to all 3366 homes in Wells Branch!!! And, thank you to everyone who has ever taken the time to deliver a newsletter and especially to those of you who do it every time we ask!!! You make it possible for us to reach everyone in the neighborhood. Thanks for keeping Wells Branch Great!

June April, Mary Alverson, Emily Berver, Bill & Debbie Brown, Kathy Brown, Gary, Joy and Chance Bryant, Creola Burns, Phil & Dana Carter, DeAndre Connor, Meaghan Cruz, Eddie Curiel, Tara Fisher-Munoz, Michelle & Jenny Gadush, Jojo Gama, David Gezana, Gilbert Guerro, Vicki Hahn, Donnie Haynes, Sonya Hindman, Gus Kohn, Rachel LeBansky, Ray, Samantha & Alexandra Lee, Jacque Longino, Sivaram Manda, James & Judy Mauldin, Becky & Katie Moore, Maia & Matías Muñoz, William Olson, Angela Orth, Barbara Romero, Marisa Sawatphadungkij, Julie Schwartz, Diane Starkey, Aubrey Stelly, Audrey Thompson, Debby Thompson, Kevin, Lisa, Sarah, Faith, Grace & Liam Ward, Wally Wingfield, Todd Wortham

If you would like to deliver the newsletter, please contact our distribution team at [dhowe@austin.rr.com](mailto:dhowe@austin.rr.com) or [deborah\\_thompson@earthlink.net](mailto:deborah_thompson@earthlink.net). We'll bring the newsletters over to you along with a map of the delivery area. If you've never done this before, it takes about 45 minutes to an hour. We always try to match up everyone with the area they live in. Sometimes there's a lot of response for one area and none for other areas. If so, we try to "get you close". Or, if you'd like to see other parts of Wells Branch, let us know and we'll gladly find a section for you.



stamp out your smoking habit, over-the-counter nicotine replacement therapy now provides easier access to proven quit-smoking aids. Even if you've tried to quit before and failed, don't let it get you down. On average, smokers try about four times before they quit for good. Start enjoying the rest of your smoke-free life! Locally, there are a variety of free support services, hotlines and smoking cessation classes to help you kick the smoking habit. Once you've made the resolution to stop, acted upon it and succeeded, you'll feel great about what you have achieved.

#### 7. Find a better job

A new year provides a sense of getting a free do-over, so you can try again and get it right. Many people resolve to find better jobs or to take a new approach to their current job.

It's corny, but true -- most of us get reflective at this time of year and if we are in jobs already, we begin thinking: Am I on the right path? Do I like where my position and my company are headed? Am I even in the right career?

So you've been hearing that voice again, the one that says you're not doing what you were born to do. That may be true, but how do you figure out what you should be doing?

To begin answering this question, examine whether your current career path matches your core interests, beliefs, values, needs and skills. Resolve to ask and answer those essential questions before making any new career changes.

#### 8. Learn Something New

Have you vowed to make this year the year to learn something new? Perhaps you are considering a career change, want to learn a new language, or just how to fix your computer? Whether you take a course or read a book, you'll

find education to be one of the easiest, most motivating New Year's resolutions to keep. Austin Community College offers a wide variety of "lifelong learning" courses, and the local YMCA offers great recreational training for beginners of all ages. Most local colleges and universities offer distance and adult education programs. Or if the arts are more your thing, art museums offer adult studio classes.

Challenge your mind in the coming year, break out of current routines and challenge every comfort zone and watch your horizons expand.

#### 9. Volunteer and help others

A popular, non-selfish New Years resolution, volunteerism can take many forms. Whether you choose to spend time helping out at your local library, mentoring a child, or building a house, there are many nonprofit volunteer organizations that could really use your help. Or if your time is really in short supply, consider donating the furniture, clothing and other household items that you no longer use, rather than leaving them out by the curb to fill up our landfills.

Volunteering has risen sharply in the last few years. This suggests the possible emergence of a new civic generation and a resolve to make a bigger and better difference with your life.

Resolve to replace the pursuit of success and materialism with the pursuit of contribution and generosity. For this to occur, the critical question must move from, "How can I become successful?" to, "What can I contribute that will significantly impact other people's lives?" By focusing on what we can contribute, we automatically become successful.

#### 10. Get Organized

On just about every New Year resolution top ten list, orga-

## Luminary Fest Pictures

1-Volunteers from the library help with the crafts  
2, 3-Carolling on the hayride  
4-Roasting marshmallows around the campfire  
5-The Grinch in Wells Branch  
6-Rebekah and Jeremy entertain Friday night





## Austin HomePage Real Estate

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## GARDENING IN WELLS BRANCH

Submitted by Dianne Koehler

Winter is a time of reflection, planning, and preparation for gardeners in our area. We take time to reflect on what

worked (or didn't) in our gardens and yards last year so that we may plan ahead for the months to come.

Many yard and garden tasks need to be done in the cold months of January through early March like pruning trees and shrubs and treating lawns. Many trees and shrubs can be planted during this time and still have time to become well established.

Lawns should be fed in March. There are special fertilizers for each kind of grass now that actually kill off some of the other grasses, so read the labels well. Consider taking a gentler approach to gardening and the environment by using compost and other organic materials in place of chemicals. Wells Branch does have creeks and run-off continues into the aquifer, the source of our drinking water. Just a thought!

The Garden Guild will meet on January 15th at noon at the Wells Branch Library to discuss fruit trees: planting, care, and appropriate varieties for our area. Tim Pfluger from Green 'n Growing will be our guest speaker in addition to a video from KLRU. Many books on gardening are available and attendees are encouraged to browse.

Topics for future meetings include:

Sat. Feb. 5 - Topic: Rain Water Collection

Sat. Mar. 5 - Topic: Backyard Gardening with John

Dromgoole (Date may shift-combined WBNA event)

Sat. April 2 - Topic: Shade Gardening (Will try for Green & Growing owner)

Sat. May 7 - Topic: Tour of Neighborhood Gardens  
(Please sign up to have your garden included)

Please see [www.wbna.us](http://www.wbna.us) for a re-cap of last month's meeting and note that beginning in February, meetings will move to 11am. For updates, check out:

<http://dianne-gardening-in-wells-branch.blogspot.com/>

*Top 10 from page 8*

nization can be a very reasonable goal.

Whether you want your home organized enough that you can invite someone over on a whim, or your office organized enough that you can find your stapler, these tips and resources should get you started on the way to a more organized life. There are many professional organizers who can help you reduce the clutter in your life and find peace in your home. Professional Pittsburgh organizer Patty Creamer, [byebyeclutter.com](http://byebyeclutter.com), even offers a six-month *But I Might Need it Someday!* e-course. Resolve this year to plan your days, reduce interruptions, clean off your desk, say "No", and make detailed lists.

The benefits of getting more organized include being able to save time, money and stress, as you no longer look for the same things over and over; need to replace things you can't find and save the last-minute rush to find what you need to get out the door on time for school, soccer practice, or important business meetings. You will also find yourself being much more productive, as all the time you once spent looking for things can now be used to do more important or more enjoyable tasks.

Most people define being organized as quickly and easily able to find what you need. While this is certainly true, organization is so much more. The ability to stay organized lets you focus on accomplishing your most important goals. That's the true benefit of being organized.

Are any of these resolutions that you made? Whatever you resolve, remember to set reasonable, attainable goals when making resolutions, don't set yourself up to fail and the likelihood for your success will be great!






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## Next Date Set for Alive @ 25 Class

***Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for 15 through 24-year-olds.***

"Alive at 25" is a video-based 4.5 hour class taught by law enforcement and first responders. Developed by the National Safety Council, the program focuses on good decision-making while the driver or passenger in a motor vehicle. The goal is to empower young drivers to adopt safer driving habits in order to reduce injury and death among Texas' youth. In comparison to their peer programs, graduates have experienced more than a 72% decrease in crash fatalities. "Alive @ 25" teaches young drivers important decision-making skills for staying safe behind the wheel.


The Wells Branch MUD and WBNA held the first course in Wells Branch in December and are proud to be hosting this program again on Saturday, February 26, from 9am-1:30pm at the Community Center. Lunch will be provided by Chick-fil-A. Through a grant from State Farm, we're able to provide it to participants, ages 15-24, for a \$10 charge. A drawing for gift cards will be held at the end of the seminar.

The teens that attended the course in December

had this to say: "James was a wonderful instructor. I've taken drivers ed and other classes but this one was by far the best, most informative one. Thank you guys so much! Oh, and the videos are good too." "I think this was a really good class that will make me think. Next time I'm in the car with friends I will pay more attention." "Very interesting, and involved the kids with everything that was going on. Videos were relatable and got the point across while keeping us interested. Very good!"

Spring Break will be here before you know it, with summer soon to follow. Please take a moment to stress to your children what their safety means not only to themselves, but also to everyone around them and encourage them to attend this seminar. Check with your insurance agent as some agents are offering up to a 10% discount for completion of this course.

Only 25 spots are available. It's only one Saturday morning and it could change their lives. Register your teen at [www.texasaliveteam.org](http://www.texasaliveteam.org). For questions, call 656-0654.



## **SUPER SUNDAY FLAG FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT**

**Feb. 6, 1-5pm – KF Park**

Wells Branch Community Church is sponsoring their second annual Super Sunday Flag Football Tournament coming up on Feb. 6. Applications can be picked up in the Wells Branch Rec. Center on Shoreline. Everyone in the community is invited: ages 12-82.

If you can't play, come cheer!!! Contact Ben Dion for more information: 512-769-9151 or [benjdion@yahoo.com](mailto:benjdion@yahoo.com)

## **COVENANT CORNER — Home Repairs**

Winter is an excellent time to take a close look at your home and evaluate the exterior for necessary repairs. Foliage has died back and it's easy to see just what needs to be done.

Keeping up the outside of your house is important not only because it's a condition of the covenants in most sections, but because it helps us all maintain our property values and keeps Wells Branch beautiful. Now that the weather has cooled down, take a moment to assess the work needed and make a plan. It's worth the investment.

Wells Branch  
Community Library

15001 Wells Port Drive  
Ph#: 989-3188  
<http://www.wblibrary.org>  
Mon-Thurs 10am-8pm  
Fri- Sat 10am-6pm  
Sun 1pm-6pm

## 2010 Review

In the past 12 months, patrons have saved \$2,093,898.47 by borrowing library materials.

The library owns 42,852 items for patron use valued at \$855,184.91

The public computers have been used 25,637 times.

Patrons have borrowed 36,891 movies.

We have delivered 625 programs to 14620 people.

We were open 350 days for of 3053 hours.

## Did you know?

As of December, 2010, more than 700 patrons have items overdue to the library and 4300 people owe money to the library. That's over \$33,750.00 owed- enough to replace all the public computers.

### 2011 Storytime Schedule

0-18 months- Baby Bookworms: Fridays at 10am

1-2 years- Monkey in the Middle: Mondays at 10:45

18-36 months- Toddler Storytime: Fridays at 10:45

3-5 years- Preschool Storytime: Fridays at 11:30

NEW: All ages- Pajama Storytime: Tuesdays at 7pm

NEW: All ages- Family Storytime: Every Saturday at 11am (2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month is Bilingual)

### A Day in Africa with Elizabeth Kahura

February 12<sup>th</sup> at 11am: All ages are invited to this free program to learn about East Africa through stories and interactive songs and dances.



### ARTS AND CRAFTS



**Kinder Crafts:** Tuesdays at 6pm & Thursdays at 1pm for ages 3-6: Process-oriented art projects for kids.

**Arts & Crafts:** Wednesdays at 6pm for age 8+ or with an adult: Fun and creative art projects for all ages.

### BOOK CLUBS

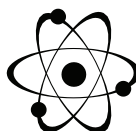
**\*NEW\*** Books and Hooks: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month at 2pm in the 'Quiet' Reading Room: Bring your project (knitting, embroidery, whatever) and discuss a book you've always meant to read, or wanted to talk about.



### Wine, Women and Words Book Club:

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 7pm in the 'Quiet' Reading Room. Newcomers are always welcome.

### LEARN AT THE LIBRARY



**Wacky Science:** Wednesdays at 5pm for age 8+: Hands-on science experiments!

**Phonics Fun:** Wednesdays at 4pm for ages 4-7: Learn the beginning steps of reading and writing through fun phonics activities.

**Conversational English:** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays at 4pm: Discussions will be in small groups and will focus on topics important to you in your daily life.

### Thursday Night is Free Family Fun Night

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month-

Family Game Night: Enjoy a selection of family games to play with your friends and family. If you want to learn chess, we'll have a master teacher.



2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month- Video Game Challenge (ages 8+) Wii games appropriate for you to enjoy together.

4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month- Family Movie Night: Watch a G or PG movie with your family and neighbors.

### Adult Computer Classes

(registration required 3 days prior to class)

January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30am- Powerpoint Basics

February 10<sup>th</sup> at 6pm- Excel Intermediate

February 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am- Powerpoint Intermediate

February 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am- What's in Your Computer?



**Find us on facebook.** "Like" us to be linked for up-to-date information!





## Community Calendar

Jan 15, 9-noon: Family trout fishing on Mills Pond\*

Jan 27, 7pm: WBNA Annual meeting & Elections

Jan 29, 6pm: Wells Branch's Got Talent, WBRC\*

Feb 5, 11am: Garden Guild, WBCL

Feb 6, 1-5pm: Flag football tournament, KF Park

Feb 14, 6:30-8:30: Valentine's Dance, WBCC\*

Feb 26, 9am-1:30pm: Alive at 25, WBCC

\* Contact the MUD for more info, 251-9814

WBCC-Comm. Center on Klattenhoff - WBRC-Rec Center on Shoreline

\*\*Have a free event to share? If so, send the details - date, place and time via email to: [wbnanews@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wbnanews@sbcglobal.net).

\*\*Events put on by for-profit entities do not qualify for this space.

## VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE

The Wells Branch MUD hosts its annual Valentine's Day Dance on February 14, from 6:30-8:30pm in the Community Center, 2106 Klattenhoff.

Adults are invited to jump, jive, and wail on an open dance floor to the sounds of a live, swing band. The MUD will provide snack foods and drinks for everyone as well as roses for the ladies.





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**Support your Neighborhood Association  
by joining the WBNA and continue to make Wells Branch great!**

Here is my check (made out to WBNA) for \$20 annual dues for 2011.

January 2011

I am: \_\_\_\_\_ renewing my membership \_\_\_\_\_ a new member

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I/we want to help with: \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter Delivery \_\_\_\_\_ Crime Watch  
\_\_\_\_\_ 4th of July \_\_\_\_\_ Easter Egg Hunt \_\_\_\_\_ Nat'l Night Out

**MAIL TO: WBNA Membership, 2104 Klattenhoff, Austin, TX. 78728**