

# News and information for the residents of Wells Branch. Vol 20, Issue 4, June 2011



### CELEBRATE THE 4TH WELLS BRANCH STYLE!

By Debby Thompson

So we don't have fireworks this year, SO WHAT? We still live in an amazing community. We have

so much to celebrate and be grateful for. I say we make this the best FourthFest yet, with or without fireworks!

Let's get in the spirit early. Hang your flags out NOW. Let everybody know that you're ready to celebrate! Meet in front of the community center on Klattenhoff at 9:30am. The parade takes off at 10am. If you've never been to one of our parades before, then you should probably know we have decorated bikes, wagons, trailers, DOGS, KIDS, hats, motorcycles and floats. Contact Matt Fuller at 251-9814 for float approval and parade questions and also if you're interested in volunteering at this event. FourthFest is very well attended, and the MUD always needs volunteers!

When the parade returns to the Community Center, we kick off a FULL day of events. There will be children's activities throughout the park from 11-2pm. Come win prizes at games like beanbag toss, balloon darts, milk bottle throw, soccer sick, and washer toss. There is free admission to KF Pool and there will also be water games there from 12-3pm. The Kiddy Train will be all revved up for giving rides and Miss Jellybean Balloon Clown will be on hand from 11-3pm to entertain. Caricature artists provided by Wells Branch Community Church will be in the courtyard from 11-3pm and there'll be inflatables for the kids to play on in the park. ALL FOR FREE!!!

Live entertainment starts at 11am and goes through 5pm under the big tent. There'll be music, a ventriloquist, a magician and more music! Throughout the day, concessions will be available for purchase offering a variety of items for all to enjoy. For a complete list of entertainment and food, please see our website: www.wbna.us

Wells Branch says goodbye to a local legend. Please see "Remembering Bill Todd" on page 4

### **GET INTO SHAPE**

with classes you didn't know we had in Wells Branch

In talking with the MUD Assistant Aquatics Manager recently, I became aware of programs I didn't know existed and thought I'd highlight some of them just in case there were others out there who were equally uninformed.

Everyone knows the MUD offers swim lessons for the kids, but did you know that they offer a Masters Swim Program for adults preparing for competitive swimming or triathlons? Did you know that you can schedule group or private swim lessons outside of regular class offerings?

The MUD has a full array of fitness classes as well. They've got Yoga, Zumba, Abs & Toning, Cross Fit and Aqua-Fit classes. It's easy to participate. Just purchase a multi-class card (\$30 in-district; \$50 out-of-district) to attend any combination of 10 classes. Visit the Rec. Center at 3000 Shoreline, www.wellsbranchmud.com or call 251-9814 for more information.

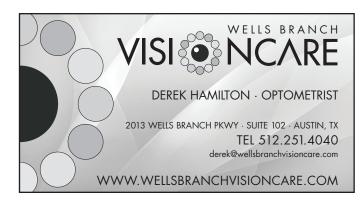
### Inside this Issue

Articles/advertisingpage 7	Join WBNApage 12
Calendar of events page 12	Kids safety page 9
Classified ads	KUDOS page 4
County seeks inputpage 6	Library newspage 10
Fireworks banpage 8	New water bill systempage 2
Fun things to dopage 11	Recycling foams page 5
Gardening in WB	Water conservationpage 3

### CLASSIFIED ADS

**Hannah's Petsitting:** \$11/day for 1 pet (\$5 for ea. addl) to water, feed & play with your pet twice a day. References available. 922-3853

**WB Lawn Services:** Trusted choice in Wells Branch – Hard working student athletes. Call Ryan 906-8047 or Hayden 902-6654



### PAY YOUR WATER BILL ONLINE: WB MUD INTRODUCES NEW BILLING SYSTEM



The Wells Branch MUD Board of Directors has approved a new and improved billing system. As of June 1 you may make your water payments online through Crossroads' website.

#### PAY OR ACCESS YOUR ACCOUNT ON

**LINE** - Your balance, amount due, monthly usage and billing history are now available to you any time of the day, night or weekends. Go to www.crossroadsus.com and follow the easy instructions by clicking "PAY MY BILL".

AUTOMATE YOUR MONTHLY PAYMENTS - If you are already using Crossroads' automatic payment option, you will need to contact them to verify your credit card number. If you want to initiate automatic monthly payments using a credit/debit card, please contact Crossroads at 512-246-1400. This option assures that your payment will be posted by the due date every month. You may set up an on-line account with your e-mail address to receive verification of payment.

**MAIL YOUR PAYMENT** - The payment stub MUST accompany the payment and be mailed to:

Wells Branch MUD P.O. Box 4901 Houston, TX 77210-4901

**PAY IN PERSON** - Payments can be made by cash, check, money order, cashiers check, debit or credit card. All e-checks will incur a \$1.00 service fee. Office hours are Monday through Friday, from 8am to 5pm at the following locations:

2601 Forest Creek Drive, Round Rock, TX 78665 14205 Burnet Road, suite 550, Austin, TX 78728 **DROP BOXES**— You may also use the drop boxes located at 2106 Klattenhoff Dr. or 3000 Shoreline Dr., both in Wells Branch. Please enclose the payment stub, check, cashiers check or money order. NO CASH PLEASE. Payments are collected daily and posted to your account Monday through Friday (excluding holidays).

**PAY BY PHONE** – Call Crossroads Utility Services at 512-246-1400. Office hours are Monday – Friday, 8 am to 5 pm. You may use a credit card (Master Card, Visa, Discover) or debit card.

**MONTHLY DUE DATE** - Your water meter is read midmonth and mailed around the 1<sup>st</sup> of the following month. It is due and payable upon receipt and past due after the 20<sup>th</sup>. If the 20<sup>th</sup> falls on a weekend or Holiday, the due date will be extended one business day. All payments received after the 20<sup>th</sup> will be assessed a 10% late fee.

**TERMINATION OF SERVICES** - If payment is not made within 3 days of the PAST DUE date, a termination letter will be sent stating the amount that must be paid prior to the termination date. You may also choose email notification through your online account.

If payment is not received by the stated termination date, water service will be terminated. Whether or not service has been physically terminated, all delinquent and all current charges, plus an administrative fee of \$35.00 and a \$100 additional deposit (up to a maximum of \$500.00), must be paid before services will be restored. For reconnections requested after 2:00 p.m., an additional after-hours fee of \$35.00 is also assessed.

If you have any questions, please call Crossroads Utility Services @ 512.246.1400.

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





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### SAVE YOUR YARD AND CONSERVE WATER AT THE SAME TIME

Information from the Texas Water Development Board

The heat is here to stay. Taking the following steps will help keep Wells Branch beautiful and conserve water (which will save you money!):

Keep grass 3 inches tall during the summer and don't cut more than one-third of its length at one time. Don't scalp lawns when mowing during hot weather. Taller grass holds moisture better. Save water and help your lawn survive the summer heat.

Plant water-efficient, well-adapted, and/or native shrubs, trees, and grasses. Choose plants that are drought and heat tolerant and can survive the minimum winter temperatures in your area. In odd-shaped areas, use drought-tolerant groundcover instead of grass.

Use lots of mulch around your shrubs and trees. It will retain moisture, reduce run-off, moderate soil temperatures, and help with weed control.

Don't over fertilize! Get a soil kit to determine what nutrients your soil needs. If you apply fertilizer only in the spring and fall, your grass will be healthy, use less water, and require less mowing.

One inch of water per week in the summer will keep most Texas grasses healthy. To determine how long you should run your sprinklers, place straight-edged cans at different distances away from the sprinkler and time how long it takes to fill and average of 1 inch of water in each can.

Don't abuse the benefits of an automatic sprinkler system by over-watering. Set it to provide thorough but infrequent watering. Check sprinkler heads regularly to make sure they are working properly. Install rain shut-off devices and adjust sprinklers to eliminate coverage on pavement.

Prevent evaporation of water. Water lawns early in the morning or in the evening during the hotter summer months. Never water on windy days. Use drip irrigation systems for bedded plants, trees, or shrubs and use low-angle sprinklers for lawns. Cover pools and spas. This can save the equivalent of your pool volume each year!

Harvest the rain. Buy a rain barrel or a cistern and collect the water from your gutters to water your plants.

Use your water efficiently. Don't waste water by cleaning patios or sidewalks with it; use a broom. For plants that need more water, use a hose or watering can to give them additional water.

Use a car wash that recycles water. If you are washing your car at home, use a bucket of soapy water and a hose nozzle that shuts off the water while you scrub.

### Your Wells Branch Neighborhood Realtor

### Howard Hagemann, MBA

e•mail: howard@txhomes4u.info cell: 512•633•8599 | fax: 512•255•1019 online: www.txhomes4u.info

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



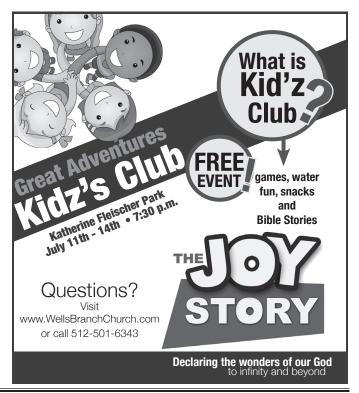




in Wells Branch means a day of fun in the sun, a grand parade, live music, games for kids of all ages, LOTS of food, a good time with your neighbors and the

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# KUDOS

Thanks to those who delivered our May issue just in time for our Q & A meeting with IESI on Single Stream Recycling. We had a good turn out at the meeting and those who didn't attend said they felt they didn't need to because they were so well informed! Y'all did a great job!



Extra Special Thanks to those who helped deliver to more than one area in order to meet the deadline:
Debbie Brown; Meaghan Cruz; Jacob Dawson; Sivaram Manda, Barbara Romero; Debby Thompson
You all went above and beyond!

And, once again... Thanks to all of you for keeping Wells Branch Great!

If you would like to deliver the newsletter, please contact our distribution team at dhowe@austin.rr.com or 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.

### Now Open SUNDAYS!



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### WB MOM HONORED ON NATIONAL PARENTING WEBSITE Submitted by Kate Raidt



Renee Sendelbach, 33, of Wells Branch was recently honored as "Mom of the Month" by the national parenting website SWparents.com. Sendelbach is fighting stage 4 breast cancer for the second time in her young life but has managed to keep

her family, especially her 4-year old son Ian, her top priority during her illness.

"My boys, as I like to call my husband and my son, keep me grounded and remind me what I have to live for" says Sendelbach. It's no surprise that she won the votes of over 50,000 subscribers to the site.

Sendelbach also adds, "Even on days I don't feel good it is easy to keep going by seeing lan's love for me, for life, for everything – it reminds me of my number one priority – to see him grow up into a caring, respectful man."

### Bill Todd, 1920-2011

Grand Marshall of our Wells Branch FourthFest Parade and Homestead Historian, Bill Todd has been a fixture in our community since its inception. Bill was driving force behind the salvation and restoration of the "Homestead" on



Klattenhoff over 30 years ago, helping to preserve the centerpiece of what became our parks system. As resident curator of the Homestead and folklorist for sixteen years he conducted tours and continued to hold court at WB events sharing his stories of pioneer life in Texas. Everyone who was fortunate enough to cross his path, left with a richer appreciation of our history. Chuck Walters, President, WB MUD, expressed the sentiments of many longtime Wells Branch residents:

"Bill Todd was a valued friend to all in our community. Everyone growing up in Wells Branch had children that were entertained and amazed with tales of life in 1850s at Homestead tours and events. We will remember and miss him dearly."

To read more about Mr. Todd and all of his contributions, visit www.wbna.us -> community -> history->Bill Todd

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This exciting offer of good health normally costs \$200 or more. It will provide you with an initial consultation, an orthopedic and neurological exam, radiographic analysis if necessary, and of course a private consultation to discuss the results. Please accept our invitation for Chiropractic Care.

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### SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING - OFF TO A GREAT START!

Our new single stream recycling program hit the streets with a bang! (In spite of a little minor confusion over start dates.) A beautiful site: shiny new blue carts lining the streets ready to buy trees for our parks!

Reminder: Recycling is on the SAME day as trash collection – just every other week! Please see www. wbna.us to download a calendar for the next year as well as recycling guidelines.

And remember, our new recycling program directly benefits our parks! Rebates are paid to the MUD for every ton of recycling collected and those funds are dedicated to purchasing trees for the trails.

### Trash isn't trash anymore. RECYCLE and literally WATCH your efforts GROW!

### NEW POOL HOURS ANNOUNCED

KF Pool: Mom & Tot Swim-M, T, W, Th, 10-11am Open Swim- M, T, W, Th, S, 11am-8pm;

F - 3-8pm & Su - 12-8pm

Willow Bend: Open Swim-M, T, W, Th, F, S, Su 2-9pm

Lap Swim & AquaFit hours remain the same.

Please see www.wellsbranchmud.com for more details.

### NEW CO-OP FOR RECYCLING STYRO-FOAMS & #6 PLASTICS By Kim Lanicek

While the new recycling guidelines are a big improvement over our previous service, there are still recyclable items that IESI will not pick up including #6 plastics and Styrofoam. Some of these items are still recyclable (for FREE) at other locations (listed below). If you are interested in helping with a community-based effort to collect and recycle these items, please contact Kim Lanicek at kimlanicek@gmail.com.

STYROFOAM: CycledPlastics (www.cycledplastics.com) at 10200 McKalla Place #100 is the closest and will take Styrofoam along with:

- #6 EPS, #5 PP, #4 LDPE (Packaging Foams free of dirt or food contamination)
- #2 HDPE curbside bottles that have been rinsed with caps removed
- #1 PET curbside bottles that have been rinsed with the caps removed
- #2 HDPE flower pots that have been lightly washed to remove most of the dirt
- #4 LDPE bags that have had no food contact and have no paper contamination (labels, stickers)

#6 PLASTIC: Ecology Action (www.ecology-action.org) on the I-35 frontage road - southbound at 9th street will also take #1-#7 plastics, cardboard, paperboard, glass, plastic bags, paper, and cans / metal.

SCRAP METAL: CMC Recycling at 1704 Howard Lane will recycle most metals. A list of what they buy is available at http://stage.cmc.com/cmcrecycling/We-Buy.aspx"

### GARDEN GUILD HAS A BUSY SUM-MER PLANNED By George Holcombe & Dianne Koehler

The Wells Branch Garden Guild (WBGG), after a very successful Garden Tour in June, will hold its July Meeting on Saturday, July 9, at 11:00 AM at the Wells Branch Community Center. We'll be working on the things we need to do to prepare for our Fall Gardens. A Master Gardner from the Travis County Master Gardeners will be on hand to guide us through the process and answer questions. Tell your friends and neighbors and let's get ready for beautiful gardens this fall in Wells Branch.

We've been very fortunate to have good presenters this year. Among them were John Dromgoole, Tom Spencer and Richard Fadal. All are leading experts in their fields. This knowledge and the enthusiasm of the gardeners is producing some beautiful landscapes and gardens throughout the neighborhood. Keep up the good work.

Don't forget to visit our hotdog/sausage wrap booth at FourthFest and help support Trees for Trails!

Learn how to preserve your harvest at the August meeting of the Wells Branch Garden Guild. Join us on August 6th when we travel to Gourmet Texas Pasta to have Chef Roy Marshall demonstrate how to preserve the produce we grow using pressure and water bath canning methods. He'll talk with us about choosing the right preserving method and doing it safely. Space constraints will limit this meeting to 30 participants. We'll post this as an event on Facebook and on the Wells Branch listserve in late July to sign up.

#### Mona Speranza's relaxing backyard and Dianne Koehler's giant cabbage brought out the ooh's and aah's from participents on the tour!



### **COUNTY OFFICIALS SEEK INPUT**

#### **Coffee Jolt with Commissioner Eckhardt**

Travis County Precinct 2 Commissioner, Sarah Eckhardt held a "Coffee Jolt" at Kenny's Coffee in WB on June 15. Commissioner Eckhardt schedules meetings each month throughout Precinct 2 so that she may meet with her constituents to discuss current views and concerns. We're grateful she took time out of her busy schedule to come hear what WB residents had to say. For future Coffee Jolt meetings or to contact Ms. Eckhardt, please see: www.saraheckhardt.com.

### Travis County to hold public hearings on redistricting and the 2011 Bond Program

Travis County officials will hold a series of public hearings to allow the community to give input on the redistricting plan to be adopted by the Commissioners Court on or about August 23, 2011. The new plan must reflect changes in Travis County demographics as reported in the latest Census data.

The public hearing in our precinct takes place on Wednesday, June 29 from 5pm to 8pm at the Precinct #2 Justice of the Peace Office at 10409 Burnet Rd., 2nd Floor, Austin, TX 78758.

Please see our website, www.wbna.us, for the public hearing notice, which includes the dates, times and locations of all the public hearings.

The Travis County Commissioners Court will also be holding a Public Outreach Meeting on the 2011 Bond Program on June 27 at 7pm at the Wells Branch Community Center at 2106 Klattenhoff. For details, please see our website: www.wbna.us

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### **ATTENTION PISD FAMILIES:**

Each Wednesday from June 29 - August 10 the Northwest Elementary library will be open from 5-7pm. Students can check out books, take AR quizzes and enjoy books with their family members. Students must be accompanied by an adult. Many thanks to NWE PTO for funding this.

Eat at Schlotzsky's Tech Ridge EVERY FRIDAY & SATURDAY in June and July and support the Connally HS Cougar Celebration, a safe alcohol/drug free celebration on graduation night. It's easy, place your receipt in the black Connally box and Schlotzsky's will donate a percentage of the total receipts.

Please see www.wbna.us for more details about both of these opportunities.

### Family is why WE DO IT ALL

We all feel the same commitment to care for our families. As your good neighbor agent, I can help you meet your insurance needs. Call me today.

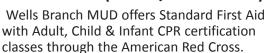


### Carmina Eaton, Agent

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LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR STATE FARM IS THERE.®

### Get certified (in CPR/AED that is!)





Participants who successfully complete the written and skills portions will receive a certificate valid for two years. Students must be at least 14 years old. Cost is \$65 for In-District (\$75 Out-of-District) per person. Classes will be held at the WB MUD Rec. Center.

The following dates are available: Sunday, August 7, 1pm-6pm Sunday, October 16, 1pm-6pm

Sign up at the Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline, or call for more information: 251-9814.

### 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 ads@wbna.us for 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 (including revisions to existing pre-paid ads) and article submissions for the next issue is September 2, 2011.

### Have a business or service you would like to advertise?

Advertising Rates in the Neighborhood News

Ad Type & Size	Fee Per Issue	6 issues pre-paid w/discount
Classified Ad-2 lines	\$18	N/A
SizeA–Business Card Ad 3 1/2"W X 1 7/8"D	\$60	\$335
SizeB-3 1/2"W X 3 7/8"D Ad	\$100	\$558
SizeC-7 1/2"W X 2.5"D Ad	\$180	\$1004
Size D-1/2 Page (7.5" X 5") Ad	\$225	\$1,256
Size E-Full Page (7.5" X 10") Ad	\$440	\$2,455
Scan Fee	\$7.50 per item to be scanned	
Ad Set Up fee-One time per new ad	\$15-50 depending on the size & complexity of ad	

\*\*In order to receive the 7% discount, the full 6 issue fee must be paid in full before the first ad runs.



### SUMMER SUN SAFETY — ESSENTIAL IN CENTRAL TEXAS

Submitted by Pam Wachholz

It's that time again, the kids want to be outside every daylight moment; the lawn begs for

regular attention; and the great pools and playgrounds are beckoning to be used. BUT, enjoying the summer outside leaves our skin vulnerable to one of the deadliest forms of cancer-malignant melanoma.

Did you know that every blistering sunburn received before the age of 18 DOUBLES the chance of developing skin cancer? Well, now you do, and here are some tips to help prevent damaging sun exposure in both adults and children.

- 1. Stay out of the sun during peak hours (10a.m.-4 p.m.)
- 2. Protect Children from the Sun
- 3. Wear a wide brimmed floppy hat, the wider the better.
- 4. Use a high SPF of sunblock (the higher the SPF the longer you have protection)
- 5. Choose a sunscreen that has both UVA and UVB protection and apply liberally.
- 6. Put your sunblock on indoors, 30 minutes before sun exposure
- 7. When swimming or sweating a lot, pat yourself dry (rubbing will remove your sunblock) and reapply according to the manufacturers instructions.
- 8. When possible, wear light colored long sleeves & pants to protect skin.
- 9. Wear UV-protective sunglasses to shield your skin and eves from the sun
- 10. Avoid Indoor Tanning

Minimizing your children's exposure to sunlight between 10 am and 4 pm and keeping them covered up when they are in the sun will protect them from future problems. Again, scientists have found a link between childhood sunburn and skin cancer later in life.

As teens and adults, we should all avoid exposure to radiation from sunlamps, tanning parlors, or other artificial tanning devices. Exposure to UV rays from any source can lead to skin damage.

So, let's all be smart and safer in the sun this summer as we enjoy all that our neighborhood and Central Texas has to offer!

Much information gathered from the National Council on Skin Cancer Prevention, http://www.skincancerprevention.org/



### **BAN ON ALL FIREWORKS IN TRAVIS COUNTY** From the Travis County Fire Marshal's office:

The Travis County Commissioners Court was presented information on June 14, 2011 regarding the imminent threat of wildfire in Travis County due to the extreme drought conditions. A local disaster declaration is required to prohibit the sale and use of fireworks. Governor Perry has extended the **Proclamation Declaring Local State** 



of Disaster and Prohibiting Sale and Use of Fireworks through 7 a.m. on July 5, 2011.

The continued lack of rain has created conditions that could allow a fire to quickly devastate large areas. The dry vegetation and frequent windy days could spread wildfires quickly and make them extremely difficult to extinguish.

Celebrating Independence Day with fireworks is a long-standing tradition in the United States. We as a nation are very proud to be free and independent from foreign control. However, the uncontrolled use of fireworks, in our current and forecast conditions, poses a hazard to the citizens and property of Travis County that is too great a risk to bear.

We would like to thank the public for their understanding during these extreme conditions, and their continued support to protect life and property in Travis County.

For these same reasons, local Fire Authorities throughout Travis County have restricted public fireworks shows due to extreme wildfire risk around the July 4th holiday. Permits for public fireworks shows during the current extreme wildfire danger will not be approved.

When the weather conditions improve, Authorities will reevaluate any pending request for permits and grant approvals accordingly.

Check www.wellsbranchmud.com or www.wbna.us for updates regarding the status of July 4th fireworks and watch for signs throughout the neighborhood should the MUD receive last minute approval.





### Know the rules... **Summer Safety Tips** to teach children

From the National Center for Missing & Exploited Childre

Below are listed some basic summer safety tips to go over with your children. There's also an emergency contact sheet you can download at www.wbna.us, click on "Safety" then click "Kids Summer Safety Tips". Once printed, fill it in and keep it posted on the fridge in case of an emergency. It may seem pretty basic, but in emergency situations, children can have difficulty remembering their names and addresses, much less how to contact Mom or Dad. Better safe than sorry. We want everyone to have a safe, fun summer!

Be sure your children know the rules about whose homes they may visit when you're not home and know their boundaries - where they may and may not go in the neighborhood.

Make sure children know their full names, address, and telephone numbers and how to use the phone. Be sure they know what to do in case of an emergency and how to reach you. (See info sheet) Children should have a neighbor or trusted adult they may call if they're scared or there's an emergency. Make sure they know who to contact and that it's okay to do so.

#### **Rules for Kids:**

- Always CHECK FIRST with your parents, guardians, or the trusted adult in charge before you go anywhere or do anything. Be sure to CHECK IN regularly so that someone knows where you are at all times.
- 2. Always **TAKE A FRIEND** with you when playing or going anywhere. It's safer and more fun.
- Always STAY AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS
  when outside. Don't crank up the music and focus on
  texting. Know where you are at all times and more
  importantly, what, or who, is around you.
- 4. Never go into a public restroom by yourself.
- 5. Stay SAFER when you're home alone by keeping the door locked; not opening the door for or talking to anyone who stops by unless the person is a trusted family friend or relative, you feel comfortable being alone with that person, and the visit has been pre-approved by your parents or guardians; and never telling anyone who calls that you're home by yourself. Say that your parents can't come to the phone right now and offer to take a message.

- Don't be tricked by people who offer you treats or gifts.
   Never accept anything from anyone without your parents' or guardians' permission.
- Never go alone to malls, movies, parks, or video arcades. Take a friend with you, and always CHECK FIRST with your parents or guardians to make sure it's okay and so that an adult knows where you are at all times.
- 8. Be careful when you play. Don't play near busy streets or deserted areas and never take shortcuts unless you have your parents' or guardians' permission.
- 9. Don't wear clothes or carry items with your name on the outside and don't be confused just because a person you don't know calls out your name.
- 10. Don't get into or go near a vehicle with anyone in it unless you are with your parents, guardians, or a trusted adult. Never take a ride from anyone without CHECKING FIRST with your parents or guardians.
- 11. Be careful playing or riding your bike as it gets dark. Wear reflectors and light colored clothing so that drivers are able to see you.

Don't be afraid to say **NO** and **GET AWAY** from any situation that makes you feel scared, uncomfortable or confused. **TRUST YOUR FEELINGS** and be sure to **TELL** a trusted adult if anything happens to make you feel this way. Let's have a SAFE and HAPPY summer!

### **WB MUD SUMMER MOVIES**

The Wells Branch MUD presents Movies in the Park at Katherine Fleischer Park on Klattenhoff Dr. Thanks to the sponsorship of University Federal Credit Union, admission is free.

Bring your blankets and chairs and enjoy these free family events. Pre-movie activities start at 8pm with the movies starting at twilight. Concessions will be available for guests.

July 9: Shrek Forever After

August 13: Tangled

Wells Branch kicked off the summer with the first Movie in the Park on June 11. Kids & parents gathered at dusk to enjoy Open Season 3.



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

## Get Ready for Summer Reading 2011 Dig Up a Good Book at the Library June 11- August 13, 2011 for ALL AGES Library closed July 4



#### **Special Kids Programs**

July 16 @ 11am: Lucas Miller- A fun and scientific concert the whole family will enjoy!

August 13 @ 11am: Circus Chicken Dog- Storytelling, juggling, unicycling, and performing animals!

#### **Reading Incentive Program**

Pick up a reading log and track how many hours you spend reading. Turn in your logs by August 13th. Earn prizes at 10, 25, 50, and 100 hour levels. The top readers get grand prizes!



### **Adult Summer Reading**

Register for the Incentive Program: Each time you read 3 books and turn in a log, you'll get a prize.

Join us August 13th at 4pm for a Garden Party to celebrate with music & food.

#### Magic Tree House Club

Ages 7-10: July 11, & August 8 at 2:00pm: Read and share your choice of any of the Magic Tree House books.

#### **Weekly Programs**

Kinder Crafts: Tuesdays at 6:30 & 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.

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

Prehistoric Preschoolers: Wednesdays at 1:00pm for ages 3-6: Learn about science, history, archeology, and more as we dig up good books.

Elementary Explorers: Thursdays at 4:00pm for ages 7-10: Uncover buried treasure & explore non-fiction books about science, history, & archaeology.

Dino Time: Mondays at 11:15am & Fridays at 12:00pm for ages 2-5: Free-play and social time with dinosaur toys immediately following storytimes.



July 14 at 6pm: Wii Bowling

August 11 at 6pm: Super Smash Brothers



#### Teen/Tween Book Reviews

Read and turn in a review of any YA book from June 11th to August 13th for your chance to win a gift card!

**Crochet Club**- Sundays at 1pm: If you don't know which end of the hook is which, or if you're a crochet whiz looking for fun, this group is for you. Supplies are provided. Special workshops with a teacher are July 17th and August 21st.

**Download books and audiobooks** directly to your machine at home, any time, for free, with a direct link from our catalog. Learn more at our FREE workshop July 9th. .

Harry Potter & the Deathly Hallows-Part 2 Release Party, Friday, July 15th at 4:30pm for ages 13+. Watch Part 1 and enter our trivia and costume contests for a chance to win tickets to see Part 2!

#### 2011 Storvtime 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
All ages- Pajama Storytime: Tuesdays at 7pm

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



Needles, Hooks and Books Reading Group: 2nd Sunday of the month at 2pm in the Quiet Reading Room. Bring your project (knit, sew, whatever) and help choose the August book.

July 10: At Swim Two Birds by Flann O'Brien

Wine, Women and Words Book Club: 3rd Monday of each month at 7pm. Newcomers are always welcome. July 18: The Lace Reader by Brunonia Barry August 15: This Golden Land by Barbara Wood Conversational English: 1st & 3rd Saturdays at 4pm Lunchtime English Practice: Thursdays at 12:30 Pre-register for small group discussion with an ESL teacher

#### Family Game Night & Chess Club:

1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 6pm: 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 with us.

#### **Adult Computer Classes:**

Every month we offer a variety of beginning and intermediate classes, for free, to help adults learn to use the computer. Call for more information.



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

### FUN THINGS TO DO WITH THE KIDS THIS SUMMER Submitted By: Tammy DeWitt Le

As the mother of a 7 and 10 year old, I am always looking for ways to avoid hearing "Mom, I'm bored!" over the summer. The following list highlights some of our favorite boredom-busters as well as places I have always wanted to visit. Look for the **FREE!** to find all fun events that don't cost anything.

**FREE!** See the Austin bats emerge from under the Congress Ave. bridge. One of the coolest sights to see is the 1.5 million Mexican free-tailed bats emerging from their roosts under the Congress Avenue Bridge. Late July through mid-August is the best time to see impressive flights, as newborn pups first begin to forage with their mothers. The bats generally emerge before dark, but may fly late if conditions are not favorable. If you don't want to go to downtown Austin, the emergence from under the I35/McNeil Road bridge in Round Rock is just a spectacular plus you don't have the trees to impede your view. You can see this from the Big Lots parking or the the parking lot right next to the bridge (if you can stand the smell!)

Watch a movie at the IMAX theater at Bob Bullock TX State History Museum, featuring Austin's only IMAX Theatre. This state-of-the-art theatre makes your ticket worth the price and 3D movies really do jump out at you. They play both special documentaries & regular feature films.

FREE! Make reading more fun for your kids. My son's 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher warned all kids that if they didn't read over the summer, they could lose up to ½ of a grade's worth of reading comprehension. WB has an excellent community library which hosts a summer reading program with prizes. Half Price Books awards gift cards to kids for summer reading and Barnes & Noble rewards them with free books (just visit to pick up a log).

Take a day trip to visit Enchanted Rock in Fredericksburg I have a vivid memory of climbing this rock with my husband when we stayed there (before kids) at a bed and breakfast. It was really fun and even kids can do it. Enchanted Rock was designated a National Natural Landmark in 1970 and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984. The Rock is a huge, pink granite exfoliation dome that rises 425 feet above ground, 1825 feet above sea level, and covers 640 acres. It is one of the largest batholiths (underground rock formation uncovered by erosion) in the United States. The park reaches capacity (in terms of parking) and frequently closes on weekends, sometimes as early as 11 a.m..

**FREE!** Watch a free movie. You don't have to pay to see a movie this summer! Take advantage of all the free showings including WB's *Movies in the Park* at Katherine Fleischer Park. See page 8 for schedule. Other places that hold free movies include: Alamo Drafthouse (daily at 11:00am) or Republic Square Movies in the Park, 422 Guadalupe.

Take a day trip to the Mayborn Planetarium & Space Center in Killeen. With a full-dome planetarium and laser light and star shows, this trip is a must for any child interested in space (and even those who aren't). It has a full 60-foot dome. Experience a unique and artistic mix of light, color and sound with 3D laser light shows set to music.

Cool off at the Rock 'N River water park in Round Rock. My family discovered this gem a few years ago which is a great alternative to the pricey and crowded Schlitterbahn. It is located just by the Dell Diamond on Highway 79 (turn left there & follow the road). With 2 slides, a lazy river, and multiple pools for young children, it's a good deal at under \$5 per ticket. You can also bring in your own cooler and snacks.

Zip along the zip line at Cypress Valley Canopy Tours. You will fly through the canopy of old cypress trees sometimes as high as 100 feet up. One child flies for free, ages 10 to 17, accompanied by one parent Tuesday and Thursday during the summer. This is definitely a splurge at \$75 per ticket and only ages 10-17 are allowed. It is located in Spicewood, Texas, just 30 miles west of downtown Austin.

FREE! Relax at a natural outdoor amphitheater while you enjoy a music or dance show at Zilker Hillside Theater. The theater is located in Zilker Park across the parking lot from Barton Springs swimming pool. The stage is located in a natural amphitheater under a stand of 100 year old pecan trees. Shows may include music or dance, with the kids free to roam around or dance to the tunes. You can bring a cooler & snacks.

Relish 70 degree temperatures in natural caverns. Choose from Inner Space Caverns in Georgetown or Natural Bridge Caverns in New Braunfels. Inner Space is just off of IH-35, about 10 minutes from WB. Natural Bridge is only about a 45 minute drive from Austin and is one of the largest in the state of Texas, making it a top attraction. They also have an outdoor climbing tower and zip lines to give your kids some exercise.

FREE! Splash around at the Brushy Creek Lake Park. This park was named "Best Place to Play in a Fountain" by the Austin Chronicle. Let your kids run around the splash pad while water shoots up at them. They also have a playground, picnic tables, lake, and hike/bike trails. Located at 3300 Brushy Creek Road near the intersection of Parmer & Brushy Creek Rd.

Play some games and indulge in the buffet at Gatti-Land. Located at the NW corner of IH-35 and Hwy 79/Sam Bass Rd., kids can play arcade games to win prizes and they generally have a Mom's Eat Free night and a Half Price Games night. The tasty buffet includes a variety of salad, pasta and pizza selections. Give them a call to confirm the day for each special.

Visit www.wbna.us -> Community -> "12 Fun Things for Kids" for pictures and links to the websites.



### Community Calendar

July 4, 11-5 WBNA Silent Auction @ FourthFest\*

July 4, 10-8: Events All Day-FourthFest\*\*

July 9, 11am: WB Garden Guild, WBCC

July 9, 8pm: Movie in the park, Shrek Forever After

August 13: Summer reading ends, WBCL

August 13, 8pm: Movie in the park, Tangled

September 3: Deadline for September issue

\*See www.wbna.us for details

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

MP=Mills Pond; WBCC=Community Center on Klattenhoff; WBCL=WB Comm Library; 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. PLEASE NOTE: Events put on by for-profit entities do not qualify for this space.

### \$100 REWARD FOR RETURN OF CLASS RING

My family is offering a \$100 reward for the return of or information leading to the return of a 1986 bluestoned, Robert E. Lee High School class ring that went missing from the gym on Memorial Day. The ring is inscribed with 'PAUL', my late brother who lost his battle with cancer four years ago. This ring carries significant sentimental value for my family and me.

If you found the ring or have any information leading to the recovery of this ring, please contact Chris at (512)636-8421. Reward will be paid upon receipt of the ring and no questions will be asked regarding. Thank you and God bless.





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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.			
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Name(s)_		E-mail:	
   Address:		Phone:	
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