



# Neighborhood News

News and information for the residents of Wells Branch.  
Vol 21, Issue 2, March/April 2012



## Join your neighbors for the Annual WBNA Easter Egg Hunt

**Saturday, April 7, 10:30am at KF Park**

Join your friends, neighbors and **The Easter Bunny**, himself, as Wells Branch welcomes Spring with the annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Homestead. "Hunts" will be by age group and begin at 10:30am. Bring your basket and come early to visit with the Easter Bunny or have fun at our craft table. We hope to see you there!

Those of you who've attended our hunts in the past know that it can get pretty hectic with 500 kids all in one spot. We have very few rules, but we do ask parents to follow those rules and be courteous and respectful of your neighbors so that all of our children enjoy the hunt.

### Easter Egg Hunt RULES

Age Groups 0-3 yrs:

- \*Only 1 parent per child in egg hunting area
- \*Watch out for potential choking hazards

Age Groups 4-6 yrs • 7-9 yrs • 10-12 yrs

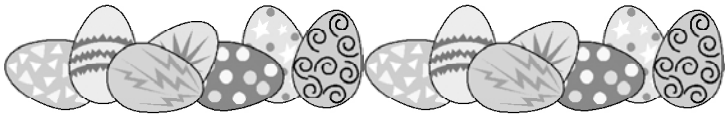
- \* No parents allowed in egg hunting area



**BE ON TIME** (early is better) **AS EGGS GO QUICKLY.**

We will have eggs for everyone who arrives in time to hunt with their age group!

Be sure to check all eggs for prizes. Recycle your plastic eggs with the WBNA.



## From the President

By Debby Thompson, WBNA President

I used to think that if anything important were to happen in Wells Branch, someone would tell me, but the truth is, it's not someone else's responsibility to make sure I'm informed. It's mine.

Do you know what our local government does? How it works? What decisions have been made in the last year and why? Water rates? Taxes? How our funds are spent? Many of us don't. That's not to say that the MUD doesn't put forth every effort to keep us informed, they do. It's just that we're not always listening.

With the demands of work, school and all of our kids' extra-curricular activities, it's hard to find time to get involved, especially when our neighborhood runs so well, seemingly by itself.

The old adage, "You can't criticize the government, if you didn't vote in the election" rings true. That being said, if you don't take the initiative to get involved in issues **before** decisions are made, you shouldn't criticize the outcome and demand change. You owe it to yourself and your community to know as much as possible, to become as involved as possible.

Be a part of the solution, not the problem. Listen. Take the initiative. Attend meetings. Ask questions. Read. If you know what's going on from the beginning, and you don't agree, then you have the opportunity to affect change before it's finalized. At the very least, you wind up with an understanding of the decision even if you don't concur.

Our MUD Board members are approachable. Yes, they're elected officials, but they're also our neighbors. By electing

*See President on pg. 3*

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## Residents gather to create a Vision for Wells Branch

On February 25, around 50 residents gathered at the WB Community Center to dream and create a Vision for our community. This meeting was the brain-child of 12 year resident George Holcombe and new resident Scott Smith. The following was presented before the actual brainstorming began:

**Reason for Visioning:** To gather our vision from the community to use in planning and acting out the future.

### What a Vision is and is not:

- A vision is not something we do or a plan of action
- A vision is an underlying image that motivates us, defines us, is a reason for being
- When we complain or boast about our community, we are making judgments based on our unspoken vision.

**Why are Visions important:** They are alive and dynamic - they move us - the clearer we are about our visions, the clearer our actions tend to be.

Once the purpose and examples were given, residents were invited to share what they felt were the gifts and challenges of our community. Mr. Holcombe and Mr. Smith facilitated the rest of the session encouraging residents to participate and collaborate to build a rational chart. Below is the result.

If you missed the February meeting, the next opportunity is scheduled for April 1, 4-6pm at the WB Community Center on Klattenhoff. Discussion will focus on the challenges to achieving our vision. Please join us and share YOUR vision for Wells Branch.



## Shared Vision for Wells Branch

| I. Excellent Community Infrastructure and Resources       | II. Highest Quality Community Communications               | III. Keeping Wells Branch Beautiful             |  | IV. Outstanding Civic Participation                        |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| Access to Rail and Bus All Week                           | Facilitated Transparent Internal & External Communications | Improved and Maintained Parks, Pools and Bldgs. | WB as Wild Life Sanctuary                        | A Voting Community   |
| Vibrant Business Community                                | Reviewed MUD Financials                                    | Strong Covenant Enforcement                     | Living Together in Natural Habitat               | Politically Active and Involved                            |
| Improved Local Shopping Resources                         | Regular Community Newsgroup                                | Resident Friendly Rules for Facilities Use      | More Trees and Bushes (dead ones replaced)       | Aware and Educated on Alternatives                         |
| Restaurants/Farmers Market                                | Expanded List Serve  | Increased Recycling at Events/Parks             | Expanded Trails (North) Improved Existing Trails | Involved at All Levels: Political, Education and Community |
| Strong Neighborhood Watch Apts. & Homes                   | WB Center for Community Education                          | MUD Sponsored Fine Arts                         | Volunteer Trail Maintenance Groups               | Support for Both School Systems                            |
| Positive Development of Vacant Land                       | Community Dialogue Services                                | Intramural Leagues for Young Adults/Singles     | Quarterly Community Clean Up Days                | Separate Community from City of Austin                     |
| Community Conflict Resolution Services                    | Monthly Pot Lucks  | New Dog Park with Amenities                     | Pride in Yards                                   | Possible Incorporation as City                             |
| Economical Lawn Care (Package Deals for Home Maintenance) | New Landlords & Renters Screening Service                  | Safe Park to Walk In                            |  |  |
| Tool Lending Services                                     | Outreach to New Owners & Renters                           | Smoke Free Park Area                            |  |  |
| Kid Friendly Swimming Pools                               | A Volunteering Community                                   | Increased Picnic Areas                          |  |  |
| Mini-Marathon Kite Fly                                    |  | Meditation Garden with Labyrinth by Pond        |  |  |

them, we've asked them to make decisions on our behalf, yet they still want our input. They want to hear our ideas and concerns. Their e-mail addresses and phone numbers are listed on the MUD website: [www.wellsbranchmud.com](http://www.wellsbranchmud.com). Jesse Kennis II, the District Manager, is available by phone and e-mail. If you have a question about something, call or write: 251-9814 or [jkennis@wellbranchmud.com](mailto:jkennis@wellbranchmud.com).

Right now, the community is involved in Visions for Wells Branch, led by George Holcombe and Scott Smith. I hope you'll join your neighbors at the next meeting on April 1.

In an effort to seek taxpayer input and keep all residents informed, Town Hall meetings will be scheduled by the MUD in the near future. Watch for signs and check the aforementioned MUD website for dates. Any resident with comments, questions, or concerns is encouraged to attend. The MUD Board will be at the "Visions" meetings as well as their Town Hall meetings to hear your thoughts and opinions.

Remember: Our MUD Board is here to represent us. We are Wells Branch! Help keep it great – get informed and get involved!

## Silent Auction Items needed

The WBNA will be hosting the Silent Auction during the annual FourthFest on July 4th. This is our BIG fundraiser for the year - how we pay for the Easter Egg Hunt, National Night Out, our participation at Halloween, Luminary Fest and New Year's Eve as well as all the meetings we host throughout the year.

We are seeking donations of merchandise, gift cards/certificates, theme baskets, services.... to auction. Some ideas are: gift certificates for movie and dinner for 2; body care products; unique candles or household items; sports memorabilia; gift certificates for babysitting.... use your imagination! In return, you receive exposure for your business at the auction, through flyers, a special "Thank You" section in the September issue of the WBNA Neighborhood News and on our website with links to your site. If you have items or services to donate OR if you would like to help solicit items, please email us at [info@wbna.us](mailto:info@wbna.us).

## Wells Branch student honored for musical composition

The Austin Symphony Orchestra's (ASO) production of their 2nd Annual Texas Young Composers Concert will be held Thursday, April 26, 7:30pm at the Long Center's Dell Hall. ASO will present the world premiere of new orchestral works composed by Texas students age 18 and under.



Among the nine orchestral works featured and conducted by ASO Maestro Peter Bay will be that of Wells Branch Resident and High School Sophomore Jocelyn Chambers. More information can be found at <http://www.austinsymphony.org/events/2nd-annual-texas-young-composers-concert/>.

Come and support Jocelyn!

# TEJAS LIQUOR #2

(Next to Raggedy Anne's Bar, Papa John's)  
2113 Wells Branch Pkwy, Ste 700, Austin, TX 78728  
Phone: (512) 989-9437 • [www.tejasliquor2.com](http://www.tejasliquor2.com)

## PUBLIC NOTICE

"Tejas Liquor #2" is an independent store and is not affiliated with any other "Tejas Liquor". Since 2003, it has been serving the neighborhood under the same ownership. Our only other location is Dany's Liquor (Pflugerville, TX). Thank you for your continued patronage. - **Desh & Roopa**

## MONTHLY SPECIALS

| VODKA                              |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| ABSOLUT 750ML/1.75L                | \$16. <sup>99</sup> /\$26. <sup>99</sup> |
| NEW AMSTERDAM 1.75L                | \$18. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| PINNACLE 1.75L (ALL FLAVORS)       | \$16. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| RUSSIAN STANDARD 1.75L             | \$20. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| SKYY 750ML (ALL FLAVORS)           | \$15. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| STOLICHNAYA 1.75L                  | \$28. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| STOLICHNAYA RASPBERRY 750ML        | \$10. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| UV 1.75L                           | \$14. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| WHISKEY                            |  |
| BUSHMILLS BLACK BUSH 750ML         | \$31. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| BLACK VELVET RESERVE 750ML/1.75L   | \$10. <sup>99</sup> /\$18. <sup>99</sup> |
| CROWN ROYAL 750ML/1.75L            | \$24. <sup>99</sup> /\$49. <sup>99</sup> |
| DEWAR'S WHITE LABEL 1.75L          | \$34. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| FAMOUS GROUSE 1.75L                | \$30. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| GLENLIVET 12 YRS SINGLE MALT 750ML | \$32. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| JACK DANIEL'S BLACK 750ML/1.75L    | \$19. <sup>99</sup> /\$34. <sup>99</sup> |
| JIM BEAM WHITE 750ML/1.75L         | \$12. <sup>99</sup> /\$22. <sup>99</sup> |
| MAKER'S MARK 750ML                 | \$22. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| WILD TURKEY 101 1.75L              | \$34. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| RUM/TEQUILA                        |  |
| BACARDI LT/GOLD/SELECT 1.75L       | \$18. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| FLOR DE CANA WHITE/GOLD 1.75L      | \$17. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| MALIBU COCONUT 1.75L               | \$18. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| SAILOR JERRY SPICED RUM 1.75L      | \$19. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| 1800 SILVER 100 PROOF (4 - 200ML)  | \$29. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| AZUL SILVER/REPOSADO 1.75L         | \$26. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| TEZON REPOSADO 750ML               | \$19. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| GIN                                |  |
| BEEFEATER 1.75L                    | \$32. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| BOMBAY SAPPHIRE 1.75L              | \$36. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| NEW AMSTERDAM 750ML/1.75L          | \$12. <sup>99</sup> /\$18. <sup>99</sup> |
| SEAGRAM'S 750ML/1.75L              | \$9. <sup>99</sup> /\$17. <sup>99</sup>  |
| COGNAC/BRANDY                      |  |
| HENNESSY VS 750ML                  | \$30. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| PAUL MASSON VS 1.75L               | \$16. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| LIQUEUR                            |  |
| JAGERMEISTER 750ML/1.75L           | \$19. <sup>99</sup> /\$39. <sup>99</sup> |
| KAHLUA 750ML                       | \$17. <sup>99</sup>                      |
| BAILEY'S 750ML                     | \$19. <sup>99</sup>                      |

WINES/CHAMPAGNES – 10% OFF | 15% OFF 2 OR MORE  
BUDWEISER • BUD/MILLER/COORS LT \$9.<sup>99</sup>/12PK \$13.<sup>99</sup>/12PK

## 10% OFF ALL OTHER PRODUCTS

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR THE FULL LIST OF  
MONTHLY SPECIALS & TASTING CALENDAR.

We will **MEET OR BEAT** any neighborhood liquor store prices.  
Prices valid **EVERY DAY** 'til April 30<sup>th</sup> while supplies last.



# 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.

## ATTN: Teenage Job Seekers

With the rising cost of extracurricular activities and the economy such as it is, expenses add up quickly. If your teen is in need of extra income, the WBNA would like to offer him/her the ability to advertise his/her services at \$10 for 2 lines of text. All advertising must be with the parent's permission and the understanding that the parent will review all prospective employers and assumes all responsibility for his/her child's safety. If interested, please contact Debby Thompson at [deborah\\_thompson@earthlink](mailto:deborah_thompson@earthlink) or 656-0654.

## WBE organic garden continues to GROW!

Fifth grade classes planted fruit trees on February 17. Thanks go out to the volunteers who coordinated and assisted: Tara Fisher-Munoz, George Holcombe, Sarah Slaughter, Steven Wilson, Roger Giller and our wonderful fifth grade teachers.

Tara received this note from Mr. Albert, a teacher whose class participated:

*"I just wanted to say THANK YOU! We had a blast. It almost brought me to tears watching them get so excited about digging a hole in the ground. Many of our kids do not have opportunities to do things like that. From the bottom of our hearts, the 5th grade team thanks you and the volunteers! "*

Community support enables endeavors like this to thrive. If YOU would like to contribute to the Wells Branch Elementary garden, either by volunteering or donation, please contact Tara Fisher-Munoz at [tfishermunoz@yahoo.com](mailto:tfishermunoz@yahoo.com). Visit their page for updates on how you can help: <http://wbna.us/community/wb-elementary-garden/>



**Steven L. Wilson**  
Principal

14908 Yellowleaf Trail  
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f 512.852.4722  
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## Sean Johnston exemplifies scouting

Submitted by Mendy Barnett

Cub Scout Pack 140 is chartered by The Wells Branch Homestead, and parents work diligently with their young boys to teach them strong values, how to be a strong leader and that character counts. There is one scout that has learned all of this and has taken it to the next level.

Sean Johnston joined Cub Scouts in 2007 when he was in 1<sup>st</sup> grade. He has had a lot of fun in Cub Scouts, and has accomplished a lot in the last 5 years. Sean has participated in many service projects, received numerous patches including the Chili Pepper patch for camping in over 100 degree heat at Camp Tom Wooten, attended Scout Jam, spent the night at NASA Space Center in Houston,

*See Scouts on pg. 13*

## 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  | \$1,004                      |
| 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.**

**To place an ad, email [ads@wbna.us](mailto:ads@wbna.us)**

## Glance at the Past - Recent MUD Accomplishments

Submitted by Chuck Walters, WB MUD Board President



Operating expenses have been reduced over \$350,000 through 1. Restructuring: reduced overtime, consolidated customer service and weekend two-man crew, 2. Negotiating new electric rates for District accounts as well as new cell and landline phone rates, and 3.

Saving costs by modernizing the vehicle fleet and by declaring excess equipment surplus.

Trees for Trails has been implemented, beginning with adopting a master plan, removing invasive species, and completing three tree plantings already. Funding for this plan is supported by single stream recycling.

Implemented Green initiatives include single stream recycling, updated pool heaters, modernized pump station equipment, rainwater harvesting and irrigation system repairs (including well monitoring), a new air conditioning system for the Rec Center, a new thermostat for the CC, and the acquisition of an electric ATV.

Enhanced security patrols complemented security camera installations at critical facilities and neighborhood crime watch programs were supported as more neighborhoods became involved.

Repairs on the CC roof have been completed and the Annex roof has been replaced. Also, the Rec Center counter and office space were remodeled for better efficiency.

The Wells Branch Community Church has been moved to a larger venue at the Rec Center.

Certain recreation programs were enhanced (including a Zumba class) as the registration/membership tag renewal process was improved.

MS4 drainage system regulatory requirements were implemented along with comprehensive pond and stream assessments.

A strategic water/wastewater master plan was developed.

Improvements were made to the disc golf course: added holes and signs, painted baskets.

Under trail system maintenance: all wood bridges were repaired concentrating on storm damage. Benches, tables and trash receptacles were replaced as needed, and faded signs in KF Park and other areas were replaced.

## WELLS BRANCH VISION CARE

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\*Some restrictions apply. Not valid with other offers. Not to be combined with insurance. Offer expires 05/01/2012  
\*\* When a first complete pair is purchased at regular price. Some restrictions apply. Not valid with other offers. Not to be combined with insurance. Offer expires 05/01/2012

## Don't Mess with Texas - Keep Wells Branch Beautiful!

Submitted by Katie Hutcheson

The 3rd Annual Keep Wells Branch Beautiful - Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off Cleanup event will be held on April 14th in conjunction with the annual Dog Days Dog Fair at Katherine Fleischer Park.

Cleanup efforts will be from 10am - 2 pm. Volunteers from local neighborhood associations, civic organizations, businesses, industries, scout troops, youth groups, church groups, and other community organizations, as well as individual citizens, are welcome to participate.

The Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off is part of the partnership between Keep Texas Beautiful and the Texas Department of Transportation. There will be volunteer giveaways and participants will receive t-shirts, trash bags, promotional items, and more.

Five separate teams are being formed for KWBB day. We will be concentrating on the following:

Cleanup of the creeks and trails.

Removal of invasive species from approved spots.

Coordinating the removal of hazardous and bulk material.

Please check the Wells Branch MUD website for further updates: [www.wellsbranchmud.com](http://www.wellsbranchmud.com).

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

- Homeowners
- Auto



**Lee Cramer**  
**251-3473**

**2013 Wells Branch Pkwy.**  
**Between IH35 & MoPac**

[lee.cramer.b4hp@statefarm.com](mailto:lee.cramer.b4hp@statefarm.com)

- Renters
- Life

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# KUDOS

Thanks to all of you who delivered our January issue. We had a bunch of new volunteers this month and we're glad to have them! Because of your efforts, we had a great turnout at our meeting on January 31. Thanks for getting the word out to all of our neighbors!

Mary Alverson, June Apprill, Kathy Bateman, Henry & Owen Bennett, Emily Berver, Mike & Joyce Best, Kathy Brown, Creola Burns, \*Meaghan Cruz, \*Jacob Dawson, Michelle & Jenny Gadush, Miriam, Melissa & Briana Garate, David Gezana, Georgene Goforth, George & Wanda Holcombe, Travers Hough, Dan, Kim, Brendan & Sarah Lanicek, Brian & Rachel LeBansky, Jacque Longino, Dave & Lori Lotspeich, Erik Mackdanz, Jim & Judy Mauldin, \*Katie Moore, William Olson, Arlie Pfeifer, Yvette Shelton, Peggy Simmons, Scott Smith, Virgil Smith, Diane Starkey, Debby Thompson, Larry & Rachel Tschanz, Jill Traffanstedt, Kevin, Lisa, Sarah, Faith, Grace & Liam Ward, Donna & Molly Weaver, Wally Wingfield, Pamela & Bre'Anna Woodward

\*Volunteered to do additional sections – THANK YOU!

**As always... Thanks to all of you for keeping Wells Branch Great!**

If you would like to deliver the newsletter, please contact our distribution team at [info@wbna.us](mailto:info@wbna.us) or 656-0654. 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.

**Thank you to all who've been contributing articles and Joy Smith for helping out with editing. Thanks to George Holcombe and Scott Smith for organizing our Visions for Wells Branch meetings as well. It's wonderful having so many WB neighbors share their talents!**

## Wells Branch - A Family Affair! By Barbara Romero

Wells Branch is, without a doubt, one of the best places to live. We are a close knit 'family' of approximately 3300 houses, all broken down into their various neighborhoods. I live in the W2A area (by Mills Pond) - the area where we came together to get the attention of the county regarding our streets and pavements. A committee of three people was asked to spearhead the project and an incredible job was done. We have groups like this throughout the neighborhood who've joined together to fight for what they believe in.

Wells Branch also has many community activities - some run by the MUD, the WBNA or the WB Library and others by smaller groups like the Garden Guild, Trees for Trails (MUD focus group), Neighborhood Watches, WB of WB (women's business association), Book Clubs, etc.

In addition, we have wonderful sports activities for the different age groups of our children. Soccer, basketball, swim teams, tennis lessons, disc golf, fishing tournaments and Scouts - so many outreach programs - all being organized and supported by non-paid volunteers. Volunteer does mean non-paid! Many of the leaders of these groups use their own money to underwrite families that otherwise could not afford to join a team sport or even afford a basketball. Care of the fields and organizing some of these sports is very time consuming and not enough thanks can be given to those who so willingly give of their time and energy. Let's remember this is done to better the lives of not only our own children, but of all children. This is what makes Wells Branch a 'family'.

Wells Branch was named the 7th best place to raise your kids in the U.S. by Bloomberg Businessweek. Let's stay cohesive and supportive of the people who head the various organizations, the dedicated volunteer coaches and assistants and all the families of Wells Branch.

## Needed: Teens 12-17 for Art Camp

Teens ages 12-17 are needed to volunteer as Jr. counselors for Art Camp to be held in Wells Branch during June & July. The sessions are 3 days, 4 hours per day. You will be helping the kids do their projects.

A small stipend or volunteer credit for HS societies may be given. Contact Dianne at: [dianne.koehler51@gmail.com](mailto:dianne.koehler51@gmail.com) or 512-827-8547.

**Have you joined the WBNA for 2012? If not, see page 16 and mail in your membership form and dues today!**



# Chicoine Chiropractic

www.chicoinechiropractic.com

**How's your posture?** Small changes in your spine's alignment can make a big difference in how you move and feel. Let us help make 2012 your healthiest year yet.



**\*We accept Most insurance plans and Medicare.**



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

## Happy New Year

### \$50 Invitation to Better Health

◆Includes a 20 minute therapeutic massage

Initial consultation, exam, x-rays if necessary, and a discussion of the results.

**3407 Wells Branch Pkwy. #625 - Austin, TX 78728**

**(512)255-1777**

**Near Walgreens at the corner of Wells Branch Parkway and Mopac.**

*Our Family Has Been Caring For Your Family Since 1989.*

## Safe Driving in OUR Neighborhood

By Deputy D. Pierce, Travis County Motor Division

One of our neighbors, Joy Hall Bryant, had a great idea for a series of articles on common traffic questions. Fellow WB resident, Travis County Sheriff Deputy Deke Pierce, offered to answer the questions she posed. We'll be featuring one subject an issue for the next few months and would love to hear your questions/suggestions for more articles at [info@wbna.us](mailto:info@wbna.us). Thanks, Joy for coming up with the idea and thanks Deke for clarifying traffic laws for us!

### Passing a School Bus or Not

Texas Transportation code 545.066 states:

An operator on a roadway, when approaching from either direction a school bus stopped to receive or discharge students: Shall stop before reaching the bus when the bus is operating visual signal, (flashing red lights visible from 500 feet in normal sun light) and may not proceed until; the bus resumes motion, the operator is signaled by the bus driver to proceed, or the visual signal is no longer activated.

An operator on a roadway having separate roadways is not required to stop. Separate roadways means there is an intervening space on which vehicles are not permitted to drive, a physical barrier, or a clearly indicated dividing section constructed to impede traffic. A roadway only separated by a turn lane is not considered separate.

That being said, if a bus stops on a street like Wells Port all traffic must stop. A street similar to Wells Branch Parkway, only traffic on the same side of the roadway with the bus must stop. A roadway like FM 1325/Burnet Road all traffic must stop.

The total fine including court cost for passing a school bus with lights activated is \$605, up to 1 year in jail if the driver causes serious bodily injury and a state jail felony if a person has been previously convicted.

## Current Issues & Concerns

Nothing new on the home front for W2A Road Acceptance or the Affordable Housing project behind Willow Run. Please check our website ([wbna.us](http://wbna.us)) periodically for updates.

RRISD Update: On February 16, RRISD Trustees voted to move children north of Merriltown and west of Bratton to McNeil High School. Students currently enrolled in Cedar Ridge will be allowed to continue there thru graduation. Bus service to both campuses will be provided.

WB Resident, Michael Farris, met with Superintendent Jesus Chavez on February 24. He was told by Dr. Chavez that he would grant a transfer to any Wells Branch child that is currently attending Chisholm Trail Middle School, or will be going next year, thus allowing a path to keep RRISD Wells Branch students together through elementary, middle and high school. It is not known at this time whether any transportation services will be provided. Please check our website for updates.

**Wanted:** Wells Branch resident to run for the RRISD Board of Trustees. Our voices have been ignored by this school board for too long. We need someone to fight for Wells Branch. Deadline to file is: 8/20/12.

See [www.roundrockisd.org](http://www.roundrockisd.org) for more details.



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 30 year Wells Branch resident

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## Help keep ALL of our property values UP ↑

by Debby Thompson, WBNA President

Keeping up the outside of your home 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.

We need to be proactive to ensure our neighborhood doesn't decline. As we all know, that one yard, or home, that isn't maintained can bring down the whole street. We have a responsibility to our neighbors as well as ourselves to take care of our homes, yards and fences.

Everyone's yard suffered from the drought last year. Most of us have lawns to replace; some have lost trees and shrubs. It's important that we clear out the debris from our yards as this only detracts from our homes and neighborhood, and in some cases, increases the chance of rodent infestation. As the temperature climbs, the less likely we are to take on the big projects. Please take advantage of the cooler temps now and get your yard ready for summer so that it only requires routine maintenance when the heat hits.

The MUD has free compost available for pick up at the Rec. Center on Shoreline. It's self-serve so bring a shovel and containers. They ask that you limit it to four 20-gallon containers at time so that everyone has a chance to get some.

Take a look around - if your whole street needs some work, why not make a party of it? One neighborhood watch group plans a clean-up day each spring and fall. Neighbors gather at one house for coffee and donuts and then go house by house helping each other get their yards in shape. They finish with beer and barbeque at another neighbor's house that evening. It's a great way to knock out the work and build a sense of community with your neighbors. It's also a friendly way of encouraging those a little less likely to care for their property to step up their game. Keeping Wells Branch Beautiful starts at home! See you outside!

## Yard Waste Reminders

To participate in the curbside yard waste recycling, please place clippings in open containers (round black tubs) or the recyclable brown paper bags available for purchase at home stores. TexaScapes WILL NOT pick up grass cuttings or leaves in plastic bags. Branches should be cut in 6ft lengths and bundled together.

As the weather gets warmer, this type of recycling increases dramatically. Clippings should be placed curbside by 7am Monday morning. Some weeks, it may take TexaScapes two or three days to collect all the clippings throughout the neighborhood so please be patient.

## Wells Branch Library in need of "friends"

submitted by Faye Cormier, Library Trustee

Have you ever wondered what our neighborhood would be like without the Wells Branch Community Library and all of the wonderful books, family and community events, child and teen activities and enrichment classes it provides?

Many in the community remember our neighborhood before the WB Community Library District was created. Once residents approved the district with an overwhelming 98% vote, the Friends of the Library was formed to begin the book collection and volunteer drive. The community response was amazing! Within a few short weeks we had enough books on the shelves to begin lending services. The Friends played an important role by continuing to recruit and organize volunteers and raise much needed funds prior to the district receiving local sales tax revenue.

Just as membership with the Friends of the Library played a critical role in the beginning of our library's history, today your membership has a more direct impact on the future of our library due to the loss of the Lone Star Library Grant, cuts in the Central Texas Library System funding, a drop of 6% in sales tax revenue as well as cuts in other grant funding. These cuts equate to a projected loss of \$20,000. This significant shortfall is why it is so important to re-energize the Friends of the Library.

All residents are invited to attend an open meeting for the Friends of the Wells Branch Community Library on April 29, 5pm in the Library meeting rooms. Join us for an ice cream social with child care and activities for the kids while mom & dad attend the meeting.

We hope to see you there.



## Trees for Trails' new plantings-



Thanks to the Trees for Trails focus group, Wells Branch gained some beautiful new landscaping in January & February. In conjunction with Tree Folks, they planted a small grove of trees at the pond. In addition, native trees, shrubs and grasses were added to the entrance to the disc golf course east of Wells Port, and larger tree plantings further down the trail. With Spring in full bloom, we hope you'll take the opportunity to get out and enjoy all our WB parks and trails have to offer.



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## WBNA Board Update

WBNA's January meeting featured many community groups. There to answer questions and visit with neighbors were: Darlene Bauhs, Trees for Trails Focus Group; George and Wanda Holcombe and Dianne Koehler, Wells Branch Garden Guild; Tara Fisher-Munoz, Wells Branch Elementary Organic Garden; Debbie Brown, WB of WB (Women Businesses of Wells Branch); Kelly and Tressie Landry, Affordable Housing Opposition; Ed Peterson, W2A; and Debby Thompson, RRISD Boundary Issues. Also on hand was Sgt. Craig Smith, TCSO, who addressed the group on recent activity along the trails and answered questions regarding same. Thanks to all for coming out.

Annual WBNA elections were held at the beginning of the meeting. The following officers were re-elected: Debby Thompson, President; Lara Bennett, Vice President; Mike Howe, Treasurer; Tom Cheshire, Community Liaison; Linda Baird, Secretary; Faye Cormier, Member-at-Large; Pam Wachholz, Editor (non-voting).

The WBNA welcomes input and involvement from everyone. Special thanks to those who joined or renewed their memberships last month. We're glad to have you!

If you haven't joined yet, there's a membership form on the back page. We want to hear from you. Tell us what you would like to see in the way of meetings and events and how we can help you become more involved in your community. Contact us at: [www.wbna.us](http://www.wbna.us)



Residents listen attentively to Sgt. Craig Smith.

## Drought recovery options for landscape and lawn

By Richard D. Fadal, ASLA and "The Green Gardener"



The prolonged drought has wreaked plunder on many a traditional and native landscapes throughout Texas while stressing our water distribution systems and forcing limited outdoor water use. By contrast, recent winter and spring rainfall throughout our immediate area now has all surviving

trees, shrubs, perennials, lawns, native grasses, wildflowers, and weeds bursting into growth. Yet Lake Travis remains well below normal levels and leaves us with an uneasy feeling about what's to come and once per week outside sprinkler system watering limits.

What's one to do about the condition, recovery, and future of their home landscape? It would take several volumes to completely answer that question, however I would like to share the following "Highlights" as possible options that may get you started enough to research further and pull your home landscape back together, weather pending of course.

Do not rush to the nearest rock yard and place gravel and cacti everywhere! Central Texas is not and will never be a part of the Sonora Desert. Droughts come and go, however our historic average rainfall of 28 to 38 inches will make such a landscape a washed out weedy mess.

**Major loss of trees, shrubs, and lawns is a very strong hint for one to consider adopting a completely new concept of landscaping their property.**

Creating a more sustainable landscape with the ideal balance of native & adapted trees, shrubs, perennials, bunch grasses, pathways, patios, decks, smaller lawn areas, and even a vegetable garden area can result in a much lower maintenance and water requiring landscape. Choosing this option will require you to obtain extensive and professional information concerning ideal soil mixes, proper soil depth (8 inch minimum and over 12 inch best), appropriate plant materials & grasses, landscape design concepts, practical irrigation – rain harvesting – and watering methods, and basic landscape construction techniques. Start by researching the many good articles and books on Native & Adapted Plant Design for Central Texas, The Principles of Xeriscape, Green or Sustainable Landscape Design, City of Austin Grow Green Guide and/or attend some local seminars at nurseries or the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. This type of landscaping will survive most severe droughts while thriving under normal rainfall conditions.

**If your landscape has fared fairly well but has some dead trees and plants and the lawn areas have pretty much crashed there are some possible options for recovery.**

First remove all obviously dead trees and plants, then cut-back any desirable but real stressed shrubs and perennials down to a 2-4 inch stem. Replace the missing plants with only native and adapted plants that you carefully select for your situation from the Native and Adapted Landscape Plant Guide of the City of Austin's Grow Green program (it's available at most local nurseries or can be found at [www.growgreen.org](http://www.growgreen.org)).

See Drought Recovery on pg. 11

# Community Corner

## WB Armada swim team registration

The Wells Branch Armada will be conducting in person registration at the Rec. Center on Saturday, March 24, from 2:30-4:30, and on Thursday, April 5, from 6:30-8:30. For more information, see [www.wbarmada.org](http://www.wbarmada.org).

## WB Elementary Spring Festival

**Saturday • March 31 • 2-6pm**

Wells Branch Elementary School (WBE) invites you to its 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Festival, Saturday, March 31, 2012 from 2 to 6pm on the WBE campus (Merrilltown and Bratton Lane). Mark your calendar and plan on attending with your family, friends and neighbors. This will be a fun and memorable event for all who attend, while raising money for WBE! Tickets will go on sale the week of March 26<sup>th</sup> at the school and will be available for purchase at the event. Some of the things you can expect are:



- Silent Auction
- Obstacle Course
- Human Hamster Ball
- Laser Tag
- Live Music
- Many more exciting activity booths and games
- Moonwalks
- Dunking Booth
- Face painting
- Refreshments
- Cake walk

For additional information, please email the WBE Parent Teachers' Association at [springfest@wellsbranchpta.org](mailto:springfest@wellsbranchpta.org).

## Open Ears Concerts at St. Andrews

Open Ears Concerts, hosted by St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, is a monthly series that presents established and emerging artists, mainly in acoustic genres such as folk, bluegrass, world, and jazz. Bring all your family and friends, and a snack to share and enjoy free fair trade coffee in a family-friendly, peaceful, listener-oriented environment. Doors open and potluck starts an hour before show time. While there is a suggested donation of \$10-15, no one will be turned away.

**Saturday April 14, 7 PM: Threefifty Duo**

**Friday April 27, 7:30 PM: Suzanne Vega Hoot Night!**

**Sunday May 6, 1:00 PM: Sam Baker with Ali Holder**

## Northwest Elementary 25th Birthday Party

**April 28th, 10am-2pm**

Carnival Games, Bouncey Houses, Petting Zoo, Food, Live Auction & Much More!

Tickets are \$0.50 each! Everyone is invited!

## Silver Branchers

The Silver Branchers meet for fun & fellowship the first three Thursdays of each month from 1-3pm in Room 4 of the Wells Branch Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive. Membership is free and all Wells Branch Seniors are welcome. For more information, call 251-9814 or just stop by.

## Low-cost pet vaccinations for your pet support RRHS Project Graduation

**Monday, April 23rd 5-7 PM • Wells Branch Elementary**

**Complete yearly vaccine - \$20.00**

**or**

**Rabies: Dogs and Cats - \$5.00**

**Dog vaccines: DHLPP/Parvo/Corona - \$15.00**

**Bordetella (Kennel Cough) - \$10.00**

**Cat vaccines: PRCC/Feluk - \$15.00**



Flea & Heartworm preventative will also be available.

A portion of the proceeds will benefit Round Rock High School's Project Graduation, keeping our seniors safe by providing an alcohol, substance free graduation party! If you have any questions, call Lana at 512-238-1093.

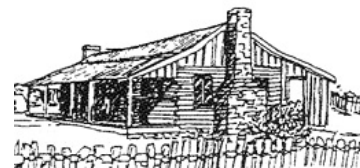
## Support CHS Graduating Seniors

Cougar Celebration 2012, a safe, alcohol/drug free event held for Connally High School's graduating seniors on graduation night has one fundraiser remaining - 1200 Thread Count Cotton Sheet Sets (top sheet, full elastic generous fitted sheet and two pillow cases) available in 12 different colors and any size for \$45. Please email [info.cc2012@gmail.com](mailto:info.cc2012@gmail.com) or visit [cougarcelebration.com](http://cougarcelebration.com) for more information.

## Homestead Pioneer Festival

**Saturday, April 28 • Noon-5pm • Homestead at KF Park**

The annual Wells Branch Pioneer Festival celebrates Texas history Saturday, April 28th. Pioneer Fest is centered around the historic Wells Branch



Homestead, an 1850s-era cabin in Katherine Fleischer Park. Pioneer Fest will feature fun and educational activities throughout the day to experience the history of 19th Century Texas. Demonstrations include rope making, corn husk doll making, syrup making and butter churning, just to name a few. If you would like to volunteer or have a craft or activity from that period for demonstration, call the MUD office at 251-9814.

## 1st Annual Wells Branch MUD Aquathlon Swim and Run for Youth Ages 6 – 16

**Saturday, May 5th at 8am • Register Now!**

The Aquathlon will be held at the Willow Bend Pool and combines two events, swimming and running to produce a challenging and fun competitive race.

Event registration is \$35 for individuals and \$45 for a relay team. Registration is limited to 200 participants, so be sure to register soon. After April 5, a late fee of \$5 will be added.

For more details and to register online please visit [www.wellsbranchmud.com](http://www.wellsbranchmud.com).

Manually pull or chop the weeds from the landscape beds; a Hula Hoe or some of the newer weeding tools may be useful. Incorporate about an inch of good finished compost into all landscape beds and tree rings by light cultivation with a 3-prong hand cultivator, adding some of the new rain and water holding granules that are soon to be on the market. Then maintain one inch of mulch throughout the year, lightly cultivate it so that it remains loose enough to absorb water. Fertilize those landscape beds and trees using an organic or organic based fertilizer like Medina Hastagro or a similar made granular.

***Be sure to water thoroughly and deeply.***

The lawn is the number one water user within any landscape, so give serious consideration to reducing its size to some pleasing shape in locations where you must have grass. Completely dead areas are a way the drought has shown you insufficient grass growing areas; possibly shallow rock outcrops, poor soil, shallow soil, compaction, heavy shade, or the wrong kind of grass. Maybe those areas would be better suited for mulch, groundcover, or planted beds; or for a patio, vegetable garden, path, swing set or garden shed.

Whatever amount of lawn one decides to keep, the following recovery and maintenance practices will help. Start mowing once or twice per week to control and weaken the winter weed growth and hand pull or chop out what you can. For overwhelming amounts of weed growth hire the services of a Texas Licensed Pesticide Applicator certified in Lawn and Ornamental Plant applications. They are trained to get good results while safely applying products you would not want to touch. Many home applied weed killers end up harming desirable trees, plants and pets.

Next or simultaneously, remove all completely dead grass and rake any dead grass or clippings from remaining living grass areas. Lightly cultivate bare areas adding finished compost to the top two inches of soil and lay sod or spread new seed of a similar but more drought tolerant grass variety. Tamp any seeded areas to make good seed/soil contact or lightly cover the seed with compost. Finally the complete lawn area should get a good organic or traditional lawn fertilizer, about ¼ to ½ inch topdressing of finished compost (as thin as one can rake with the backside of a steel garden rake). Finally, water it thoroughly and deeply, keeping it moist until the new grass seed or sod takes, even if you have to lightly hand water.

Be sure to keep the following recommendations in mind if completely replacing or installing a new lawn. Use well drained topsoil that is a sandy/sandy loam texture with about 10% organic matter (it might be compost you add). Be sure to grade the soil so that is has positive drainage away from the house, drive, and other improvements. Make the total soil depth as deep as you can afford and preferably 8 inches minimum. That depth holds water best, allows grass roots to reach a minimally optimal depth, but also is just deep enough to create hydrostatic pressure within soil particles that pulls any rain or applied watering into the root zone. Select a newer and more Central Texas suitable grass variety that is more hot summer tolerant, such as Sahara, Panama, or Princess

Bermudagrass seed for full sun; Celebration Bermudagrass Sod for full sun and light/medium shade; Palmetto St. Augustine for soil depths over 8 inches and morning sun to medium shade; with Amerishade St. Augustine possibly working for light to deeper medium shade. Consider planting some well spaced lighter foliated deciduous trees such as Texas Cedar Elm, Honey Mesquite, Possum Haw, or Texas Persimmon as a shady and cool break throughout the lawn.

Good luck, hope these options help, and keep dancing and praying for normal rains and a full Lake Travis.



## Spring into a Fitness Routine

Becky Brown, PT, DPT, chrcpt@gmail.com

As the weather warms up, there is no excuse to stay indoors. Wells Branch has numerous trails and bike lanes and the time has come to get back out there and put them to good use.

The American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) sets exercise recommendations for individuals of varying fitness levels. In general, one should set a goal of 20-60 minutes of continuous aerobic activity, however severely deconditioned people may benefit from multiple short 10 minute sessions per day. Three to five exercise sessions per week are suggested for persons with a moderate to high fitness level.

Beginning a new fitness routine is always a good idea, however I caution you to listen to your body to prevent injury. Your body may not be quite ready for what you expect it to be. Injury may ultimately cause a sudden halt to your newly acquired exercise regimen. Set realistic achievable goals using the minutes and frequency guidelines above. Progress slowly. And of course, have fun!

**Get to know your  
neighbors—start a  
neighborhood watch!**



## 2012 Storytime Schedule

0-10 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

## Weekly Programs

**Kinder Crafts:** Tuesdays at 6:30pm 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.

**Growing Up Wild:** Wednesdays at 5:00pm  
Environmental Science for ages 3-7. Watch the critter of the month grow and develop.

**Bow-Wow Reading Dogs:** Saturdays 12-1pm.  
Registration required.

## Monthly Programs

**Needles Hooks & Books:** 2nd Sunday of each month at 2pm in the Quiet Reading Room: Bring your project (knitting, embroidery, whatever) and discuss the group's chosen book.

April 15: *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien

May 20: *Possession*, a romance by A.S. Byatt

**Wine, Women and Words Book Club:** Join the group that's been reading together for more than a decade, whether you finish the book or not. Newcomers are always welcome. This group meets at 7pm on the first Thursday of the month.

April 5: *The Auslander* by Mary Powell

May 3: *In the Garden of Beasts: love, terror and an American family in Hitler's Berlin* by Erik Larson

**Mango Language Learning Workshops:** Learn to use the library's subscription service. Over twenty languages are available with step-by-step instructions and pronunciation aids. April 11th and May 9th at 6pm.



**Overdrive Digital Library Workshops:** We have e-books and audio books available for immediate download at home to your computer and personal device (nook, MP3, iPad, etc). April 25th and May 23rd at 6pm.

**Social Media Workshop:** Learn to create and use your own social media accounts and how to protect your privacy. April 21st and May 19th at 1pm.



## Find us on facebook.

"Like" us to be linked for up-to-date information!

**Adult Computer Classes:** Each month, we offer a variety of classes on basic computer use, everything from buying a computer to email and Excel tips. Check the calendar for schedules and be sure to reserve your spot.



**Recycling Magic Show:** Saturday, April 14th at 11am: All ages are invited to a fun magic show all about recycling. Free!

**Comic Book Day:** Saturday, May 5th: Join us for free drawing workshops and pick up a free comic book for your collection (not the official Free Comic Book Day comic).

- 11am- ages 5+ Learn to draw with children's book illustrator Scott Sutton
- 12pm- ages 9+ Manga drawing workshop

**Everyone Reads:** *Dewey, the small town library cat that touched the world* by Vicki Myron

This 3-month program will focus on books and pets. We have many copies of the book available, for adults and youth. Programs include:



- **Kick Off Party:** Make special toys and treats for your pet. May 12th at 4pm
- **Recycled Book Art:** What else can you do with a book that's falling apart? June 9th at 4pm
- **Book Club Finale Reception:** July 14th at 4pm
- **Our Own Library Cat:** coming to WBCL April 1, 2012. We'll have a naming contest and the cat will have a blog for you to follow, telling all about adventures and what he/she sees in the library!

## Summer Reading 2012

This year's summer reading program will run from June 2nd to August 11th. All ages are encouraged to register and track how many pages they read.



### Summer Reading Kick-Off Program

The Texas A&M University Chemistry Road Show! June 2nd at 11am.

**Support your library-  
shop and eat in Wells Branch.**  
For a guide to the restaurants in Wells Branch, go to [www.wbna.us](http://www.wbna.us)

Scout from pg. 4

earned several patches while visiting Washington DC last summer, earned the 9/11 patch for participating in the 9/11 Memorial Celebration last September, sold over \$7000 in popcorn to raise money for his Pack, and earned the Leave No Trace patch.

That might sound like a lot, but that is just the beginning for Sean. Cub Scouts are given the opportunity to participate in Academic and Sports programs and earn a belt loop or pin for each activity. Sean has earned all 53 belt loops and 33 pins that go with the belt loops. In 2010, Sean began working on the Webelos advancement program and has earned all 20 of the Webelos activity pins, for which he received the Super Achiever Patch. Finally, Sean has earned the highest award in Cub Scouts, The Arrow of Light Award. I think Sean's own words exemplify scouting, "I like setting goals, and when I set a goal, I like to complete the goals," Johnston said. "I set this one, and I got it done."



Wells Branch and Pack 140 congratulate Sean and the other Webelos II Scouts who crossed over to Boy Scouts at their February 25 Blue & Gold Banquet. Way to go Scouts!

Photos by Holly Thompson

## WB of WB Elects Officers

The Women Businesses of Wells Branch met on March 8 to discuss leadership. Newly elected officers are:

President - Tara Fisher-Munoz

Communications - Kim Lanicek

Web Site (Wordpress Blog) - Erin Caffey

Facebook - Sylvia Brito

Flyers - Ali Goynes

The WB of WB is a group of women in Wells Branch who have come together to support, encourage and help each other in all the ups and down of owning and running personal businesses. They hold casual evening meetings to share ideas, resources and their collective business wisdom.

The only requirement for membership is that you either reside in Wells Branch or have a business located in Wells Branch. The WB of WB is simply a group of women who benefit from interacting with other women who are facing some of the same challenges in running a business. ***And best of all...they have a lot of fun doing it!***

Future meeting dates (location to be announced)

- APRIL 12 - 8:00 pm - finalize slogan, logo, taglines, etc.
- APRIL 28 (Saturday) - 6:00 to 9:00 pm
- MAY 10 (Thursday) - 8:00 pm - utilizing social media for your business

If you're not familiar with the group, please visit <http://wbofwb.blogspot.com/> for more details and a list of women's businesses in Wells Branch. If you own a business in Wells Branch, please contact Tara at [tfishermunoz@yahoo.com](mailto:tfishermunoz@yahoo.com) to join.

# EASTER

## HELP IS ON THE WAY



WellsBranchChurch.com



3000 Shoreline Dr. 8:45 & 10:30 AM

## Recycling participation drops in January

For the first time since we began single stream recycling in Wells Branch, our numbers have dropped. Our participation rate was 78.3% for the month of December, 71% in January and only 64.3% for February. Combined recycling efforts for these two months brought in \$1372 to buy trees for the park system. Wells Branch can do better. Please, recycle wherever you can and encourage your neighbors to join you. For more info regarding your area's participation, please visit our website. As a reminder, please don't put styrofoam or plastic bags in with the recycling.

Recycling pickup only occurs every other week on regular trash pickup days. Clip and save this calendar of recycling pickup days or download a calendar thru May 2012 from our website: [wbna.us](http://wbna.us). Just search "Recycling" for the calendar and list of materials accepted.

### WB Recycling Schedule

#### April 2012

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 |    |    |    |    |    |

#### May 2012

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |

## Check your irrigation system before Spring - proper maintenance saves both water & money

Submitted by Margret Wingrove, Crossroads Utility Services

- Check your system before it is activated this Spring and then at least once a month
- Make sure the water sprays only on landscaping, not sidewalks, streets, etc.
- Adjust the run time on the automatic controller based on changing rainfall and temperatures
- Make sure the spray pattern is not blocked by shrubs or grass
- Check each nozzle head in each zone to make sure they are spraying correctly and that they are not clogged with dirt or debris
- Check for indication of a leak; this may be an area that stays wet or is greener than the rest of the lawn.



## Water Conservation Signs are here and FREE to a good home!

Whether you've been doing the "right thing" all along and following our water schedules or just want to learn more about water conservation, we have a sign for you. They can be used no matter what stage of water conservation we're in - whether we're watering 1x per week or 2x per week or not at all and can also be stored and used during our next dry cycle. To receive your FREE sign, email [WBConserves@wbna.us](mailto:WBConserves@wbna.us). For more information, see: [www.texaswaterfoundation.org](http://www.texaswaterfoundation.org)



## Articles and Advertising

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](mailto: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 5pm, April 27, 2012. Please see page 4 for ad rates and sizes.

## "FREE"

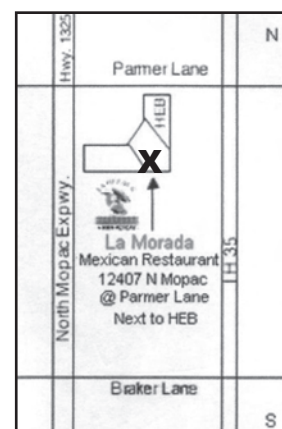
**Enchilada Dinner\***  
w/purchase of a beverage  
\*2 cheese enchiladas w/rice & beans

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## 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**



## Garden Guild Exciting Spring Events

submitted by George Holcombe

The Garden Guild will be getting our hands in the dirt at our April meeting, so bring your tools and a couple of seedlings to the Homestead Garden on Klattenhoff, right in front of the Homestead cabin. Virginia Almon, who has faithfully kept the garden going, providing tours and lectures, will be supervising the work, and we'll be putting in plants and getting the garden in 1st class shape. That will be the 3rd Saturday, April 21, at 11:00 AM. It will be great fun and you can bring the kids as well.

In May, we'll have our 2nd Annual Garden Tour. Dianne Koehler, Tara Fisher-Muñoz, Kathleen Clark and Mari Noga will be arranging the tour. Yvette Shelton will show us through our Community Garden and we'll be getting a picture of how organic gardening is going in Wells Branch. We'll also be assembling a report on how many neighbors are raising some of their own veggies. That's Saturday, May 19. We'll start early at 10:00 AM. Starting point to be determined. Check our page on the WBNA website for location: <http://wbna.us/community/gardening-in-wells-branch/garden-guild/>



*Have you noticed, there were lots of winter vegetables grown right here in the 'hood in our own backyards? This bounty came from Yvette Shelton's garden.*

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## Upcoming MUD Events

**Dog Fair** Saturday, April 14 • 10am-1pm KF Park

Calling all dogs! Wells Branch MUD holds its annual Dog Fair Saturday, April 14th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event is free to all. Come and visit the many booths occupied by local veterinarians and other pet-oriented companies. Enroll your pooch to win prizes in one of the many free and fun competitions including Best Trick, Fastest Dog, Best Dressed, Dog & Owner Look-A-Like and our prestigious Wells Branch King and Queen contest. All dogs must be on a leash and under owner's control at all times. All dogs attending the event must be current on their vaccinations. No aggressive dogs please.



## Youth Fishing Tournament

Saturday, May 5 • 9am-Noon • Mills Pond

The very popular spring youth fishing tournament is hosted by the WB MUD again on May 5. Kids ages 17 and under are welcome to participate in the tournament, and fish from 9 a.m. to noon at Mills Pond. Enrollment into the tournament is free for all youth, with trophies and prizes being awarded at the end. A rod and reel will be provided for those anglers who would like to borrow one. All state fishing regulations apply.



## WB MUD offers Spring swim lessons

Wells Branch is now offering swim lessons for Toddlers and Preschool Beginners in April and May.

The Toddler Class is for children aged 12 months to less than 3 years and the Preschool Beginner class is for children 3-5 years who have little or no water skills and need a lot of assistance.

For information on what the classes cover, schedule and cost, please see [www.wellsbranchmud.com](http://www.wellsbranchmud.com) or call 251-9814.



# Community Calendar

- 3/24, 8am-Noon: NW Elem. Garage Sale & Car Wash
- 3/24, 2:30-4:30pm: WB Armada Registration, WBRC
- 3/31, 2-6pm: Wells Branch Elem. Spring Festival
- 4/1, 4pm: Visions for Wells Branch, WBCC\*
- 4/5, 6:30-8:30pm: WB Armada Registration, WBRC
- 4/7, 10:30am: WBNA Easter Egg Hunt, WBH, KF Park \*
- 4/12, 8pm: WB of WB meeting\*
- 4/14, 10am-1pm: WB MUD Annual Dog Fair, KF Park\*\*
- 4/14, 10am-1pm: WB MUD Keep WB Beautiful Event\*\*
- 4/14, 7pm: Open Ears Concert-"Threefifty Duo", pg. 10
- 4/21, 11am: Garden Guild-Planting the Homestead Garden
- 4/23, 5-7pm: Pet Vaccination Clinic at WB Elem
- 4/27, 5pm: Deadline for WBNA May Issue
- 4/27, 7:30pm: Open Ears Concert-"Suzanne Vega Hoot Night!", pg. 10
- 4/28, 10am-2pm: NW Elem. 25th Birthday Party
- 4/28, Noon-5pm: Pioneer Fest, Homestead at KF Park\*\*
- 4/28, 6-9pm: WB of WB Open House\*
- 4/29, 5pm: Friends of the Library ice-cream social
- 5/5, 8am: Aquathlon for kids, Willow Bend Pool
- 5/5, 9am-Noon: MUD Youth Fishing Tournament,\*\*
- 5/6, 1pm: Open Ears Concert @ St. Andrews on Wells Port "Sam Baker with Ali Holder"
- 5/10, 8pm: WB of WB meeting\*
- 5/19, 10am: Garden Guild Tour\*

\*See [www.wbna.us](http://www.wbna.us) for details

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

MP=Mills Pond; WBCC=Community Center on Klattenhoff;

WBH=WB Homestead Cabin area 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: [wbnaews@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wbnaews@sbcglobal.net). PLEASE NOTE: Events put on by for-profit entities do not qualify for this space.



Tammy

Judy



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**14765 Montoro:** 4 bed, 2.5 bath, 2-story, built 1994—*Coming Soon*

**14401 Weldon:** 3 bed, 2.5 bath, 2-story, built 1985—*Coming Soon*

**2511 Tracy:** \$123,500—2 bed, 2 bath, 1-story—*Pending in 15 days!*

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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 2012.

March/April 2012

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 \_\_\_\_\_ Luminary Fest \_\_\_\_\_ NY Eve

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