



Neighborhood News

News and information for the residents of Wells Branch.
Vol 20, Issue 5, September 2012

National Night Out

Free Food • Great Company • Door Prizes!
Tuesday, October 2 • 6:30-9pm

Join your Wells Branch neighbors for our night out against crime, Tuesday, October 2, from 6:30-9:00pm at the gazebo at Katherine Fleischer Park. The WBNA will be serving up **FREE** hotdogs, sausage wraps, sodas, chips and door prizes.

We'll have distinguished guests on hand from the Travis County Sheriff's Office, ESD #2 Fire Department, Precinct 2 Constable's Office and the Wells Branch MUD to mention a few. Both children and adults will have the opportunity to visit with first responders, receive information on Neighborhood Watch and other programs available to residents, and tour the fire safety house and fire truck that ESD #2 will have on hand. Come find out what's going on in our community and visit with local law enforcement officers and politicians about what you can do to help reduce the opportunities for crimes to occur in our neighborhood.

National Night Out is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support for and participation in local anti-crime efforts, and to strengthen neighborhood spirit and law enforcement-community partnership. Help send the message to criminals that Wells Branch is organized and fighting back.

Take a stand against crime. Turn on your porch light and come join your friends and neighbors at the park for food and fellowship. If you have a Neighborhood Watch group on your block (or even if you don't) we'd like to encourage you to come eat dinner with us, listen to the speakers, and then return home to your street and gather with your neighbors over dessert to discuss how you can make your homes and our community safer.

We hope to see you there!



VOTE Wells Branch!

Election Day is November 6 • Early voting begins October 22 • Our politicians need to know that

Wells Branch is a Voting Community • Not only is it your **RIGHT**, it is your **RESPONSIBILITY** • Arm yourself with knowledge • Get informed • Then **VOTE!**

If you're not registered yet, look inside. We'll help you get registered. You **must** register by October 9 to vote in the November 6 election. Watch our website for links to voting guides and polling locations. If you need a ride, we'll help you get there. If you have questions, we'll help you find the answers. Email VOTE@wbna.us.

Don't forget! We have several elections that are non-partisan. If you vote a straight party ticket, make sure you scroll all the way to the end of the ballot and vote in the non-partisan races (i.e. school, MUD, and library boards) as well. Our local elections are just as important to our community as the national and state elections.



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Fire Safety News



Fire Station 2 Open House 15300 Bratton Lane

Oct. 9 • 6pm-8pm

ESD#2 will hold an Open House at Station 2 on Bratton Lane on Oct. 9th from 6pm-8pm. As

always, come by to meet your local fire fighters, view our array of different fire fighting trucks, and tour our Station. We'll have goodies for the kids and Blood Pressure checks for the adults. Refreshments will be served as well.

Food Drive Nov. 1 to mid-December

Our ESD#2 Firefighters will hold a food drive from the first of November through the middle of December. Nonperishable food can be donated at Fire Station #2, 15300 Bratton Lane, during that time frame.

National Fire Prevention Week Oct. 7-13

The reality is that when fire strikes, your home could be engulfed in smoke and flames in just a few minutes.

It is important to have a home fire escape plan that prepares your family to think fast and get out quickly when the smoke alarm sounds. What if your first escape route is blocked by smoke or flames? That's why having two ways out is such a key part of your plan. This year's theme, "Have 2 Ways Out!", focuses on the importance of fire escape planning and practice. Basically, have two known exits in any establishment that you may reside or visit, plan for emergencies and practice responses.

Visit www.nfpa.org for more info on Fire Safety.

Safety reminder

Lt. Tim Wallace, from Pflugerville Fire says, "As always, we want everyone to check their smoke detectors monthly for operation and change batteries at least one a year, if not every 6 months...."



Many fire departments encourage people to change the batteries in their smoke detectors when they change their clocks because Daylight Saving Time provides a convenient reminder.

- Working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half.
- Almost two-thirds (62%) of reported home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

Source: www.nfpa.org



Time to "Fall Back"

Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 4 at 2am. Don't forget to turn your clocks back an hour before bed on Saturday night!

Ever wonder "Why two o'clock on a Sunday morning?" In the U.S., 2:00 a.m. was originally chosen as the changeover time because it minimized disruption. Most people were at home; this was the time when the fewest trains were running; it is late enough to minimally affect bars and restaurants and is early enough that the entire continental U.S. switches by daybreak.

Source: <http://www.webexhibits.org/daylightsaving/b2.html>

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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

New WB resident, **Freelance Graphic Designer**, Great rates (flyers, logos, ads, invitations, etc.) Please call Donna at 512-810-3598.



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Affordable Housing: Waters at Willow Run

UPDATE Submitted by Scott Swain, WBNRD (Wells Branch Neighbors for Responsible Development)
The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs will be holding a public hearing on **Wednesday, October 17, 2012** at 6:30pm at Wells Branch Elementary to solicit public comment on a proposed multifamily bond transaction (**The Waters at Willow Run Apartments**).

The Waters at Willow Run, LP. (Atlantic Housing) has made application to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs for the issuance of Tax Exempt Mortgage Revenue Bonds and Housing Tax Credits. We need **EVERYONE** in the Neighborhood to turn out for this meeting. If you live in Wells Branch it affects you and you should be aware of it.

If you are interested in knowing more, Email: scottswain@sbcglobal.net

Candidate Forums Scheduled to Educate WB Voters

Voting is so essential. Informed voting is imperative. In an effort to educate WB voters on the very important local races, the WBNA has scheduled the following candidate forums. We urge you to please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Wells Branch MUD Board Candidate Forum Thursday, October 11, 7pm WB Community Center

Come join the WBNA in learning what our MUD board candidates have to offer our community. Enjoy light snacks and a meet & greet afterwards.

RRISD Trustee Candidate Forum Saturday, October 13, 9am WB Community Center

WBNA would like to invite our RRISD taxpayers to a Trustee candidate forum. We'll have coffee and donuts, formal questions followed by a question and answer session and last, an informal meet and greet with the candidates.

This meeting is important whether you have children or not. School Board Trustees are responsible for managing the largest portion of property taxes we pay. If you live on the RRISD side of Wells Branch, you need to attend this meeting.



Questions about Wells Branch?

Send them to info@wbna.us

We'll do our best to get answers for you. Questions that may be of interest to multiple residents will be published in upcoming newsletters and on our website.

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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**

OCTOBER SPECIALS

VODKA

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DRIPPING SPRINGS 1.75L	\$25.99
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THREE OLIVES (CITRUS / PASSION FRUIT/ TOMATO/ WATERMELON) 1L	\$18.99
THREE OLIVES (DUDE/PURPLE/RANGTANG) 750ML (2-375ML) MIX-N-MATCH	\$9.99
STOLICHNAYA BLACKBERRY 750ML (2-375ML)	\$9.99
UV 1.75L	\$15.99
VIKINGFJORD 1.75L	\$14.99

WHISKEY

BULLEIT 750ML	\$23.99
CROWN ROYAL 750ML/1.75L	\$24.99/\$49.99
DEWAR'S WHITE LABEL 1.75L	\$36.99
FAMOUS GROUSE 1.75L	\$34.99
GLENLIVET 12YRS 750ML	\$34.99
JACK DANIEL'S BLACK 750ML/1.75L	\$19.99/\$36.99
JAMESON IRISH 750ML	\$20.99
JIM BEAM WHITE 750ML/1.75L	\$13.99/\$23.99
MAKER'S MARK 750ML	\$23.99
TULLAMORE DEW 750ML	\$18.99

RUM

APPLETON RESERVE 1L	\$24.99
CORUBA (COCONUT/MANGO) 750ML	\$9.99
FLOR DE CANA WHITE/GOLD 1.75L	\$17.99
MALIBU COCONUT/CRAN-CHERRY 1.75L	\$20.99
SAILOR JERRY SPICED RUM 1.75L	\$20.99

TEQUILA

1800 SILVER 100 PROOF 800ML (4-200ML)	\$24.99
EL CHARRO SILVER/REPO 750ML	\$10.99
EL JIMADOR SILVER/REPO 1L	\$19.99
IN-STORE SPECIALS ON TEQUILAS SUCH AS: 1800, CABO WABO, CORRALEJO, DON EDUARDO, EL GRADO & TEZON.	

COGNAC/BRANDY

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REMY MARTIN VSOP 750ML/1.75L	\$34.99/\$69.99

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Your Vote is Your Voice - The first step is registering!

On June 28, twelve of your neighbors became Volunteer Deputy Voter Registrars. We have a total of thirteen Wells Branch residents who've committed to helping get folks registered.

The last day to register to vote in the November election is October 9. We'll have booths set up at National Night Out on October 2, and at the Free VIN Etching event at Willow Bend Pool on October 9. Contact us at VOTE@WBNA.US and we'll even come to your house!

I can't stress enough how important it is for all Wells Branch residents to VOTE. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to get registered and make time to vote in November.



New volunteer Deputy Voter Registrars from Wells Branch. Front row: Mekela P., Wanda Holcombe, George Holcombe. Back row: David & Susan Gezana, Salvador & Nina Aguirre, Shelley Palmer, Deanna Johnson, Janet Maxey, Pamela Woodward, Debby Thompson. Behind the camera: Pam Wachholz

FourthFest gains WB 17 new voters!

Thanks to all who worked throughout the day: Nina Aguirre, Michele Samuelson, Susan Gezana, Wanda Holcombe, George Holcombe, Mekela P., and Pamela Woodward.

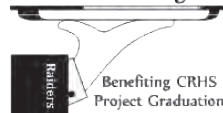


George Holcombe & Mekela P. sign up new voters at the Voter Registration Booth at FourthFest.

RIGHT: Many THANKS to Dianne Koehler whose summer mini-art camps enriched & entertained 51 kids, 76 campers & 9 teen volunteers, not to mention her MORE THAN Generous Donation of 50% of her gross proceeds to the WB Trees for Trails to buy trees for our parks.

Support Project Graduation and Keep Your Kitchen Clean for a good cause!

**Ravenous Raiders
Restaurant Night**



The Cedar Ridge Project Graduation Committee is hard at work raising funds for Project Graduation for our inaugural Senior Class of 2013. Project Graduation is a nationally recognized alcohol and drug free party designed to give high

school graduates a safe alternative for celebrating their special night. Statistics have shown that students celebrating on the evening of graduation can experience one of the most dangerous nights of their young lives.

This year is extra special because it is our first graduating class and we wish to set a wonderful precedent for the years to come. Because it is our first year, we are starting completely from scratch and community support is essential for our success. Wells Branch residents should be very proud of how well our kids rose above the boundary fiasco and have become leaders on campus. We hope you will support them and the parents working hard to plan a great evening for them!

Thursday Oct 11th 4pm-10pm, Texas Roadhouse (Pflugerville Location) *Print out ticket and present when ordering

Wednesday Oct 24th 5pm-8pm, Chick-Fil-A (Stone Hill, P'ville Location) Put receipt in Project Grad basket by register

Tuesday-Wednesday Nov 5-6 all day, Schlotzky's (La Frontera Location) *Print out and present ticket when ordering

*For details and to print tickets visit: www.crhsprojectgraduation.org

We are planning many other events to raise funds and invite the entire community to come out and support this important cause. There are a variety of ways you can help out with our first ever Cedar Ridge Project Graduation – from becoming a sponsor to “adopting a senior” to participating in one of our many restaurant fundraisers, the Golf Tournament, Pet Vaccination Clinics....

If interested in helping or for more information, please contact Trish Koester (WB resident) at crhspgfundraiserchair@gmail.com. Thanks in advance for your support for our neighborhood graduating seniors and be sure to stay tuned for more information about upcoming events.

Pet Vaccination Clinic-WB Elementary Coming SOON!

Check the Project Grad website and look for signs throughout the neighborhood for dates and time.

Golf Tournament-December 17, 1pm

Forest Creek Golf Club, Players and sponsors needed! Sign up at www.crhsprojectgraduation.org



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Nicole Chicoine Edwards, D.C.

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Our Family Has Been Caring For Your Family Since 1989.

Merrilltown Square Shines in this edition's Spotlight

Submitted by Karen Mappin

We continue our series on the businesses that support our Wells Branch tax district with Merrilltown Square, 14611 Burnet Road at the corner of Burnet Road and Merrilltown Drive. Remember that these hard working neighbors support our emergency service district and our library through a portion of the sales tax that they collect. Their ability to thrive in our neighborhood helps us provide our wonderful library and our outstanding emergency fire and medical support. The better the businesses do, the better we all do.

Let's start with food again: Restaurateur Francisco Villa has served his family's Tex Mex recipes through his restaurant, Ramos, for 10 years. He and his family opened Ramos #3 in Merrilltown Square to expand his operation because his food is so popular. He would like to share his family's delicious recipes with your family so you can see for yourself that their family secrets really do satisfy a hungry family. You can reach the restaurant at 512-246-0727.

Also in the food category, but bridging the service category is Crave Catering. Kim and Kirk Price provide special event full catering and event planning. You can have them help with your next event by contacting 512-828-5797. They would love to help you succeed. And sharing the same office space, Aimee Villa owns Lizze Belle an event coordination business. You can reach her at 512-577-0554. Other food and drink options are Texas Bar and Grill and Capitol Liquor.

If wellness is your thing, Sudha Solankee is the owner and manager of Curves Wells Branch. Curves is a full gym for women

only where you can work all those great meals off. She also offers periodic guest speakers to provide additional information that promotes healthy living. You can reach her at 512-238-9899 to discuss a membership.

Tom Whorton owns Tom Whorton Insurance. He has been an agent for 26 years, and 19 of those years have been as our neighbor in Merrilltown Square. He offers Farmers Insurance products and can help you find coverage that suits you and your family ideally. To contact him, call 512-388-4456 and he will be happy to set up a convenient time to meet your needs.

And rounding out the businesses in Merrilltown Square are two gas and small food marts stores: Speedy Stop selling Shell gasoline and Food Mart with Chevron products and a family counseling business.

And to close this month, we include a funny little fact about the shopping area at the corner of Wells Branch Parkway and Burnet Road that is not in our tax district. This means that the City of Austin gets all the tax revenue from these businesses EXCEPT for the front cash register in the Walgreens store. Yes, if you buy something at the Walgreens, don't use the pharmacy register or the cosmetics counter register because they don't count towards our revenue, but the front register does. That just goes to show what a funny thing government drawn boundaries really are!

And PLEASE, remember to support our businesses so they can continue to support Wells Branch!



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KUDOS

Thanks to all of you who delivered our June/ July issue. You were **AMAZING!** Summertime is always rough because so many of our "regulars" that we depend on are out of town, but we put the word out and y'all really stepped up and got the newsletter out on time for Fourth Fest. Many, many thanks to our new deliverers and to all of you who offered to do extra sections. We just can't say **THANK YOU** enough!



Daniel Barnekow, *Mike & Joyce Best, Gary, Joy & Chance Bryant, Garland Bullock, David Burke, Dan Ernst, Delian Filip, Chris Flores, Michelle & Jenny Gadush, Miriam, Melissa & Briana Garate, Georgene Goforth, Betsey, Tessi & Cole Harper, *Matt Hiland, George & Wanda Holcombe, Travers Hough, Bill Johnson, Deanna Johnson, Dan, Kim, Brendan & Sarah Lanicek, Brian & Rachel LeBansky, *Sivaram, Jyoti & Arjuna Manda, Karen Mappin, Jim & Judy Mauldin, Mekala, *Cristi Rendon, *Barbara Romero, Randy Samuelson, Peggy Simmons, Scott Smith, Virgil Smith, **Diane Starkey, Debby Thompson, Jill Traffanstedt, Larry & Rachel Tschanz, Lisa, Sarah, Faith, Grace & Liam Ward, Mike, Annemarie, Maura & Thomas Weis, Deb Weltzer, Pamela Woodward

***Delivered additional sections – THANK YOU!**

****We wanted to add a special THANK YOU to Diane Starkey who recently moved from Wells Branch. We could ALWAYS count on Diane and we will miss her!**

As always, Thanks to all of you for keeping WB Great!

If you would like to deliver the newsletter, please contact our distribution team at 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.

Also, thank you to all who've been contributing articles, We love neighbors helping neighbors get informed!

Welcome, WB Merchants Association

By Gus Kohn, President, Friends of the WB Community Library

"Keeping it Local" by buying Wells Branch, increases revenue for the library and fire districts by increasing sales tax generated within the districts. With the purpose of growing community and merchant involvement, the Friends of the Wells Branch Community Library (FoWBCL) and the Emergency Services District No. 2 (ESD) met with Wells Branch business owners in August to form a new group: the Wells Branch Merchants Association (WBMA).

The WBCL and the ESD derive a substantial amount of their total revenue from ½% sales tax within the districts. It is to their advantage to support and promote "shopping local" so that neighbors support businesses within the district whenever possible. A meeting was held August 31st at the Library at which six businesses within the WBCL & ESD No.2 districts were represented. We think that was a great turnout for a Friday afternoon before a holiday! Another meeting is proposed to include more businesses in the district for planning and organization.

A listserv for WBMA was established. If you are a Wells Branch merchant and would like to join the WBMA list serve so that you may receive updates on their meetings and activities please email: wbmerchants@gmail.com. You don't have to have a store-front to join; all merchants in Wells Branch are welcome!

We all hope this association will be a big success and look forward to watching it grow. It's a great opportunity for business owners to meet and share ideas, concerns and collaborate on marketing. Watch the neighborhood association website for updates at www.wbna.us=>community=>wb-merchants-association



Founding group, L-R: Desh & Aman Dhingra (Tejas Liquor #2), Scott Smith (VP, FoWBCL), John Grasshoff (Manager of Gov. Affairs & Support Travis County ESD No. 2), Lee Cramer (State Farm Ins.), Shelly Hogan, DC (Chicoine Chiropractic), Chris Carby (Branch BBQ), Joy Smith (Joy Peppers), Gus Kohn (Pres., FoWBCL)

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 October 19, 2012. Please see www.wbna.us for ad rates and sizes.

Support Wells Branch Facebook Pages

Tip for supporting WB - Take a few minutes to check out our neighborhood businesses on Facebook and "Like" them. Share their sites with friends. Spread the word - Keeping it local helps fund the Library and Emergency Services District. Successful businesses contribute to a healthy community. Buy Wells Branch!

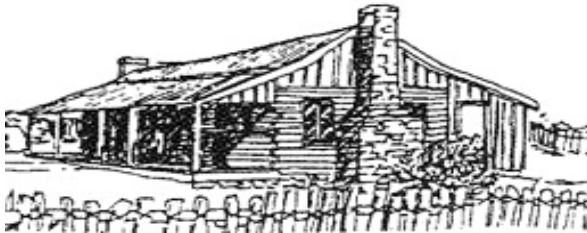
NEW! Family Tours at the Wells Branch Homestead

Step back in time to the 1800's and rediscover pioneer Texas!

Virginia Almon, Curator of the Wells Branch Homestead and her husband Brian along with other volunteers are gearing up to host Family Tours at the Wells Branch Homestead from 2-4pm each third Saturday of the month from September-December and February-May.

We hope you'll take this opportunity to explore this treasure in our own backyard! Bring the family and spend an afternoon learning about the brave men and women who chose to make Texas their home in the 1800's, and of their hardships, joys, chores and games.

The cost is \$15.00 per family. Registration is required. For more information or to register, contact Matt Fuller at 251-9814 or mfuller@wellsbranchmud.com.



WBNA Welcome Wagon gets off to a GREAT start!

Long ago, in Wells Branch's younger days, the neighborhood association hosted a Welcome Wagon. When new residents would move into the neighborhood, they would be greeted by a friendly neighbor and a basket of goodies. As time progressed, this custom fell by the wayside.

Good News! It's BACK! WBNA board member Linda Baird has taken on this project and has been delivering goody bags to all of our new homeowners in Wells Branch since May. Linda visited 19 homes in May, 27 in June, 20 in July and 12 in August with another 33 forecast for September. Thank you, Linda! The WBNA appreciates all that you do for the neighborhood!

We want everyone to feel a part of this wonderful community. If you would like to volunteer and help welcome new families to Wells Branch, please contact Linda Baird at welcomewagon@wbna.us.





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Garden Guild is Grand!

By George Holcombe

With goodies out of our gardens, lots of conversation and good planning, we have an exciting year ahead of us. Here's the report from our August planning session.

The WBGG met with 17 gardeners and discussed the accomplishments of the guild; what worked and what didn't work in their gardens this past year. The garden tour was by far the most outstanding accomplishment. The sessions on shade gardening, Daphne Richard's session on gardening in the drought, and Joe Posern's session on drip irrigation also made the list as well as an increase in the number of organic gardeners and xeriscaping of yards in the community. The biggest successes for vegetables were Valley Girl tomatoes, heirloom seeds and certain varieties of cucumbers. The biggest problem was growing yellow squash and preventing borers from killing the plants.

September brought an outstanding session on *Preparing for the Fall Garden* with Jim Pfluger from Green & Growing in Pflugerville and our first plant swap. We had a fantastic turnout! Link to the highlights through www.wbna.us/gardening-in-wells-branch/

October will feature: *Growing Herbs* and another plant swap 30 minutes before the meeting.

November and December meetings will be reduced to one and instead of the third Saturday will be held Saturday, December 3. We'll focus on Preparing the Winter Garden with Richard Fadal of TexaScapes.

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings occur on the third Saturday of the month at the Wells Branch Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive at 11:00 am. Everyone is welcome to the meetings, green thumb or not!

Toxin of the Month: Bisphenol A

By Dianna Gielstra, Ph.D.

During a Green Team sponsored event for the Wells Branch Parent Teacher Association, I was approached by Debby Thompson to write a column for the Neighborhood News. Mrs. Thompson considered a "Toxin of the Month" column an invaluable and informative asset for the newsletter to increase environmental awareness regarding potential threats to human health and the environment in our homes and places of business in Wells Branch.

Working on the old adage that knowledge is power, I will begin the column with a simple, yet concerning, statistic. There are more than 80,000 chemicals that are sold in products at present. Of these 80,000 chemicals marketed to consumers, approximately 200 chemicals have been evaluated for safety in terms of risk assessment to human health (Clean Water Action, 2012). This is an alarming knowledge gap as many chemical compounds are associated with increased incidence of cancer, asthma, and additional human health effects.

This month, I would like to focus on Carcinogens, Mutagens, and Reproductive Toxicants (CMRs). My introduction to such compounds began in my risk assessment class at the Medical University of South Carolina. A course reading highlighted the danger of endocrine disruptors, human-made chemical compounds that are hormone mimickers, chemicals that mimic and replace our natural hormones, bioaccumulate, and are stored in human and animal tissue over time. Some people may ask why this is dangerous? These chemicals are associated with the increased risk of early onset puberty and obesity, Type II diabetes, hyperactivity, prostate cancer, sperm defects, and impaired reproductive development (Patisaul, 2010).

The individuals most at risk are pregnant women. The developing fetus is extraordinarily sensitive to shifts in hormone levels of the mother, which can alter the "genetic blueprint" of the baby (Colborn et al., 1997).

There are several pathways for endocrine disruptors to enter our environment. Because effluent from factories that produce these compounds are dumped into global waterways, these compounds are found in the global water supply, and often the highest levels become concentrated at the polar environments because of the water current circulation. These are geographic areas and ecosystems that we like to consider "pristine". We, as a population, have less control over the contaminated global water supply, and we rely on the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and the global equivalents of this program, to regulate industry to maintain a clean water supply.

Yet, as consumers, there are ways to protect ourselves. By knowing what the chemical compound is and in what products it is located, then we can reduce our exposure to these toxic chemicals. One known endocrine disruptor is Bisphenol A or BPA. BPA is a compound that is used to make polycarbonate plastic. BPA is a compound that is found in baby bottles, infant formula linings, water bottles and plastic linings of canned goods. BPA is marked by the recycling number of 7.



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By steering clear of this plastic for food and water consumption, then you can reduce your exposure to BPA. By not purchasing plastics made of BPA, then you might reduce the likelihood of these chemicals finding their way into our environment and global water supply.

Knowing what these toxins are, and how to reduce exposure, is critical to improved environmental quality in the home. For more information on endocrine disruptors, please consider visiting the following websites:

- United States Environmental Protection Agency: www.usepa.gov
- Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR): <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov>
- Dr. Colburn's site listing much of the book's information listed above: <http://www.ourstolenfuture.org>
- Information on air and water quality in your area: <http://scorecard.goodguide.com/>

Dianna Gielstra is a natural and applied science faculty for the University of Phoenix who teaches environmental science, geology, and earth systems science classes. She is also a research scientist that studies climate, soils, and ecological processes in the subalpine ecotones in high mountain environments. Her past research background specializes in human impacts on the environment in McMurdo Station, Antarctica tracking pollution remediation efforts by the National Science Foundation Office of Polar Programs as well as historical human impacts in wetland ecosystems and the changes that result over space and time.

References:

Clean Water Action. 2012. "Minnesota - What's in your products?" Retrieved on April 7, 2012 from URL: <http://www.cleanwateraction.org/programinitiative/healthy-legacy/products>

Colborn, T.; Dumanoski, D. and Meyers, J. P. (1997). *Our Stolen Future : How We Are Threatening Our Fertility, Intelligence and Survival*. Penguin Group, NY:NY.

Patisaul, H. 2010. Assessing Risks from Bisphenol-A: Evaluating human health risks from endocrine disruptors such as BPA is difficult, but animal studies suggest trouble is afoot. *American Scientist*. Retrieved from URL: <http://www.americanscientist.org/issues/pub/2010/1/assessing-risks-from-bisphenol-a>

Check out photos from
WB's Halloween activities
on WBNA's Facebook page!



Practical Ways to AVOID BPA

Submitted by Tara Fisher-Munoz



Now that you know the science on why it's best to avoid BPA, you may be wondering how you can best prevent contact with the toxin. Although the public is becoming increasingly aware of the dangers of BPA, many retailers still use this

toxic chemical in their products, including receipts, linings of pizza boxes/microwavable popcorn, linings in canned food, and many plastic products. Here are a few tips to help avoid BPA exposure:

Try to avoid plastics. When puzzling over the small recycling numbers on the bottom of plastic containers, remember this mantra: 4,5, 1 and 2; all the rest are bad for you. So AVOID 3,6 & 7!!

Find an alternative use for those plastic baby bottles and use glass ones instead.

Check the EWG guide to infant formula and baby bottles. (www.ewg.org)

Check the toxicity level of your child's toys on www.healthy-toys.org.

Avoid putting plastic containers in the microwave. They leach toxic chemicals, including BPA into your food.

Do not buy pre-bagged popcorn as it has BPA in the lining that leaches into your popcorn as it cooks. Buy organic popcorn kernels, put ¼ cup in a brown paper lunch sack and microwave for about 2 minutes. Voilà – you have much healthier popcorn and you can add whatever toppings you want!

Use cloth bags instead of plastic bags for shopping.

Contact your local representative to encourage your city to ban disposable plastic water bottles. Use a stainless steel, glass or BPA free water bottle!

Ask your grocery store/retailer to use receipts without BPA in them.

BPA has been linked to several health maladies, such as cancer, infertility and other hormonal issues. It is best to be avoided as much as possible. By following the above tips, you will greatly reduce your exposure to BPA and its ill effects.

Tara Fisher-Munoz founded Vida Green Consulting to teach people how to live a greener, cleaner and healthier lifestyle. Tara knows her stuff when it comes to living an eco-friendly lifestyle from making your own non-toxic cleaners to organic gardening to recycling to raising two children in a Vegan household.

Silver Brancher News

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, just stop by or call 251-9814.

BRANCH BBQ

Lunch Special

11AM-2PM MON-FRI

1 meat plate or 2 meat plate
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Summer Success!

Submitted by Debby Thompson

Donations from neighbors allowed "Give a Kid a Summer" to buy seven one-year recreation passes and seven quarterly passes for neighborhood kids in need. Contributions were down but we had some funds left from last year so we were still able to buy passes for everyone who requested help. Thank you so much for your contributions: Brad & Linda Caramagno, Kendall & Julie Witte and my husband, Gus Kohn, who supports all of my "causes".

Kids NEED a place to "be" anytime – not just summertime. We have wonderful facilities available in Wells Branch: two pools and a recreation center – safe, clean environments with adult supervision. I know for a fact the kids we bought passes for used these facilities every single day and what's more, they appreciated having some place to go. I'd like to thank Matt and the staff at the Rec. Center for providing leadership and positive adult role models. You've made a difference in these teens' lives. And a special thanks to Paul for giving the kids rides home (and ice cream).

Thank you, everyone, for taking this opportunity to help these kids enjoy their summer vacation safely.



FOL Logo Contest Winner!

By Gus Kohn, President, Friends of WB Community Library

Congratulations to Donna Malone for her winning design of the Friends of the Wells Branch Community Library's new logo. Donna wins a \$50 Visa Gift card from the FOL. Look for the new logo around the neighborhood; it will soon be seen all over!



Special THANKS to all who participated in our July 4th Silent Auction! By Debby Thompson

We'd like to thank our community for supporting the WBNA in our fundraising efforts. Our Fourth Fest Silent Auction raised \$2,781.00! Best EVER! Thank you to all our donors and participants. Its purpose was to raise enough money to pay for National Night Out, the annual Easter Egg Hunt, Friday night at Luminary Fest in December and to help with our educational/safety programs. We exceeded our goal thanks to all of YOU! Whether you were a donor, a buyer, or the WB MUD who let us use their facilities, you all made a tremendous difference and the WBNA is grateful!

When you see the neighbors listed below, please thank them for supporting our community. In addition, we hope you'll patronize these businesses and join us on October 2nd for Wells Branch's National Night Out Against Crime. You ALL make Wells Branch GREAT!

AJ's Cyclery

10019 W. Parmer Ln. #102
Austin, TX 78717
www.ajcyclery.com, 351-3179

Angie Little

Wells Branch Neighbor

Austin Children's Museum

201 Colorado St.
Austin, TX 78701
www.austinkids.org, 472-2499

Austin Zoo

10807 Rawhide Trail
Austin, TX 78736
www.austinzoo.org
288-1490

Branch BBQ

1779 Wells Branch Pkwy.
Austin, TX 78728
www.branchbbq.com
Chris Carby 990-5282

Bruce Kuemmel

Wells Branch Neighbor
Austin Printing and Mailing
http://austinprint.com/

Arbonne

Wells Branch
www.deborahbrown.myarbonne.com
Debbie Brown 990-5688

Bump Club & Beyond

Wells Branch Neighbors
http://bit.ly/BCBevents
Jennifer Rubin 201-417-9152

Capital Cruises

7511 Delafield Ln.
Austin, TX 78752
www.capitalcruises.com
Shannon Shaddock 480-9264

Chicoine Chiropractic

Wells Branch Neighbors
3407 Wells Branch Pkwy. #625
Austin, TX 78728
www.chicoinechiropractic.com
Shelly Hogan, DC 255-1777

Chon Som Catering

Wells Branch Neighbor
Marissa & Nat
sushinat@yahoo.com

Cindie's

14106 I-35 N.
Austin, TX 78728
www.cindies.com
Desirea, Mgr. 670-7444

Cost Cutters

6001 W. Parmer Ln., #390
Austin, TX 78727
219-8174

Craig E. Matthews, LMT, MTI

14428 Robert I. Walker
Austin, TX 78728
www.CraigsHands.com
Craig Matthews 989-7733

Dave's Ultimate Automotive

2711 W. Howard Ln.
Austin, TX 78728
www.davesua.com
Brad, Mgr. 244-7716

Diane Starkey

Wells Branch Neighbor

Dianne Koehler Wooden It Be Wonderful

Wells Branch Neighbor
http://sites.google.com/site/woodenitbewonderful

Dove Chocolate Discoveries

Wells Branch Neighbor
www.mycdcsite.com/
chocolatiererin
Erin Caffey 470-4547

El Faro

1779 Wells Branch Pkwy # 108
Austin, TX 78728
www.elfaroaustin.com
Jose Morales 744-5595

Esther's Follies

525 E. Sixth St.
Austin, TX 78701
www.esthersfollies.com
320-0553

Express Cut 9

2113 Wells Branch Pkwy.
Austin, TX 78728
Nasrin, Owner 251-8939

Family Christian Stores

12901 N I-35 Bldg. 10 #1010
Austin, TX 78753
www.familychristian.com
Kathy Williams 989-9488

Faye Cormier & JoAnn Miller

Wells Branch Neighbors

Firestone

2500 W. Parmer Ln. #170
Austin, TX 78727
www.firestonecompleteautocare.com
Jeff Hunter, Mgr. 388-6060

Four Seasons

14735 Bratton Ln.
Austin, TX 78728
www.fourseasonschinese.com
Jack, Mgr. 251-0827

Fred, Nancy & Debbie Schultz

Wells Branch Neighbors

Golden Corral

12509 N. Lamar Blvd. #934
Austin, TX 78753
www.goldencorral.net
Andrew, Mgr. 973-8264

Gourmet Texas Pasta

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Kim McDaniel 496-1980

HandymanHelp

Wells Branch Neighbor
Ben Dion 769-9151

Horizon Realty

Wells Branch Neighbor
9606 N. Mopac #150
Austin, TX 78759
www.familypair.com
Tammy DeWitt Le 342-1800

Inka Chicken

1709 Wells Branch Pkwy.
Austin, TX 78730
www.inka-chicken.com
Rick & Claudia, Owners 252-2222

Janet Maxey

Wells Branch Neighbor

Jimmie Rotge

Wells Branch Neighbor

Joy Peppers

2104 Castle View Dr.
Austin, TX 78728
www.joypeppers.com
Joy Smith 517-1552

Just Between Friends

500 N. Railroad Ave.
Pflugerville, TX 78660
www.jbfsale.com
Kara Turner

Kenny's

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Austin, TX 78728
www.kennyscoffee.com
Debby, Mgr. 252-0999

Kit Gray

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La Morada

12407 N. Mopac Expwy.
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Lake Travis Zipline Adventures

14529 Pochontas Trail
Volente, TX 78641
www.ziplaketexas.com
Brian George, Mgr. 614-1996

Lee Cramer • State Farm Insurance

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Austin, TX 78728
Sandy Olphie 251-9181

Mary Kay Consultant

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www.marykay.com/mward7777
Megan Ward 921-2796

Massage & Yoga

14735 Bratton Ln. Austin, TX 78728
www.massageplusyoga.com
Michael Parrish 200-4250

Meeting Planning Professionals

14827 Bescott Dr. Austin, TX 78728
www.meetingplanningpros.com
Paula Rigling, CAE, CMP 791-4701

Mezzaluna

14735 Bratton Ln.
Austin, TX 78728
www.mezzalunaAustin.com
Loretta & Chris 252-1444

Northwest YMCA

5807 McNeil Dr.
Austin, TX 78729
www.austinyymca.org
Tayne Richard 335-9622

Open Ears Concerts

St. Andrews Episcopal Church
14311 Wells Port Dr.
Austin, TX 78728
Matt Hiland 736-7001

Organo Gold

Wells Branch Neighbor
www.organogold.com/c/US/
Denise Hopewell 799-6069

Papa John's

2113 Wells Branch Pkwy.
Austin, TX 78728
www.papajohns.com
Melanie McGr. 251-7272

Party Face Fotos

Wells Branch Neighbor
www.partyfacefotos.com
Delian Filip 799-3845

Pei Wei

12901 N I-35 Bldg 15 #1540
Austin, TX 78753
www.peiwei.com, 252-9062

Polvos en la Brissa

14736 Bratton Ln. Austin, TX 78728
Angel, Mgr.

RealNet Team Realty

Wells Branch Neighbors
12515-8 Research Blvd., Ste. 100
Austin, TX 78759
www.realnetteam.com
Dave & Linda Baird 238-8881

Renee Sendelbach •

EmbracingLifeLoveArt

Wells Branch Neighbor
www.embracinglifeloveart.com

Rita's Ice Custard Happiness

6001 W. Parmer Ln.
Austin, TX 78727
Frank Assorgi, Owner 996-8436

Royal Cookies & Design

Angie Nett, Owner 497-3121

Ruth & Kendra

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SarahBerry Boutique

2207 Klattenhoff Dr.
Austin, TX 78728
www.babyblankets.etsy.com
Kim Lanicek 589-5443

Shibber D'Lites

P O Box 201987 Austin, TX 78720
www.shibberdlites.com
Sherry Moore 586-4244

Sonic, America's Drive In

1637 Wells Branch Pkwy.
Austin, TX 78728
www.sonicdrivein.com
Deborah, Mgr. 990-0466

Souper Salad

12901 N I-35 Bldg. 18 #1830
Austin, TX 78753
www.soupersalad.com
Denise Jordan 252-6322

Spicy Monsoon

13717 N. Mopac Expwy, #300
Austin, TX 78728
www.spicymonsoon.com
Estel Thiruselvan 255-6060

Starbucks

603 Louis Henna Blvd Ste B100
Round Rock, TX 78664
www.starbucks.com
671-7000

Subway

3407 Wells Branch Pkwy
Austin, TX 78728
www.subway.com
Carolyn Dungan 453-7207

Supercuts

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Austin, TX 78727
Massad, Mgr. 255-5881

Take 5 Haircuts

4101 W. Parmer Ln.
Austin, TX 78727
www.take5haircuts.com
Whitney, Mgr. 833-7486

Tejas Liquor #2

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Desh, Roopa & Aman
989-9437



We also thank our many donors who wish to remain anonymous.

And last, but not least, special thanks to: Gus Kohn, Debbie Brown, Joy Smith & Pamela Woodward for beating the pavement for donations; Madonna



Johnson for all the time and energy that went into the donor handouts; Joy Smith, Janet Maxey, Faye Cormier, JoAnn Miller & Debbie Brown for working their magic with set-up the day before and hanging in there all day on the Fourth, Lara Bennett and Pam Wachholz for

helping out with set-up and for volunteering their time to help run the auction. You all were amazing! If I've left anyone out, please accept my sincere apology. Thanks so much for making it happen!!!

Also, a huge THANK YOU to everyone who bought or sold raffle tickets for the iPad (especially Tom Cheshire, Faye Cormier & JoAnn Miller). The WBNA netted over \$1,251.99 from the raffle and Paul Weaver was the lucky winner. Congratulations!

And THANK YOU to Dianne Koehler and her crew who stepped up at the very last minute and did face painting in the foyer ALL DAY on the Fourth! Fourth Fest wouldn't be complete without y'all!

Terex Auto Body

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www.terexautobody.com
Rex Robinson 250-9316

Texas Bar & Grill

14611 Burnet Rd.
Austin, TX 78828
www.tbagaustin.com/index.html
Jerry Berman 255-2229

The Austin Variety Show

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Austin, TX 78752
www.austinvarietyshow.com

The Highball

1142 S. Lamar, Austin, TX 78704
www.thehighball.com
Sarah Pitre 383-8309

Vida Green Consulting

Wells Branch Neighbor
http://vidagreenconsulting.com/
Tara Fisher-Munoz

Zed's Restaurant

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Laura Josselson, GM 339-9337



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Your vote counts!

Politicians look at statistics. Wells Branch used to be known as a voting community. Lately, our numbers have been embarrassingly LOW. If we are going to carry any weight, with anyone, we need to be known as an informed, involved community. Please join me in reaching out to our neighbors. TALK about upcoming elections. Encourage everyone to register. Have non-partisan voting "parties". Host a coffee or happy hour and walk to the polls together (or carpool)! If you're voting early, take a neighbor! Make time to VOTE and help someone else do the same.

At our last election, we only had one voting judge from Wells Branch. They had to beg people from other parts of town to work our neighborhood. To learn how to become a voting judge and help our community, call Diana Rubio at 854-3938.



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 512-484-2614



W2A Road Approval & Acceptance by Travis County

*Section W-2A, The Pond at Wells Branch, includes the following roads west of Wells Port: Rick Whinery, Quiet Pond, and Emmett Parkway. For background info, please see www.wbna.us=>community.

Resolution! Finally! In a vote of 66 "For" and only 3 "Against", residents of W2A voted to participate in a cost share agreement with Travis County to have their roads and sidewalks accepted into the county maintenance program. The County will now take responsibility for the necessary road and sidewalk repairs within W2A. Residents are anxious for the work to begin!

Special thanks to the Citizen Committee comprised of Ed Peterson, Wendell Grimsley & Ravi Marawar and the support of the Wells Branch MUD Board of Directors.

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 3.5"W X 1.875"D	\$60	\$335
SizeB-3.5"W X 3.713"D Ad	\$100	\$558
SizeC-7.5"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 wbna.news@sbcglobal.net



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Fri-Sat 10am-6pm
Sun 1pm-6pm
Closed October 2 & 27

Adult Book Clubs

Potluck Mystery Book Club: Read any book from the series and bring a treat to share.

Oct 11 at 7pm: Jacqueline Winspear's Maisie Dobbs Series

Needles Hooks & Books: 3rd Sunday of each month at 2pm in the Quiet Reading Room: Bring your project (knitting, embroidery, whatever)



Oct 21: *Odd Thomas* by Dean Koontz

Wine, Women and Words Book Club:



Newcomers are always welcome. This group meets at 7pm on the first Thursday of the month.

Oct 4: *Midwives* by Chris Bohjalian

Writer's Group: Saturdays at 10am: All writers are invited to join the library's new group to write, work and share in a quiet, supportive environment.

Community Garage Sale: Clean out the garage/attic and turn your extra stuff into CA\$H! The Friends of the Library will hold a neighborhood garage sale Saturday Oct. 6th in the Library parking lot. If you have items to sell but not enough for a big yard sale, rent a space at the library for a nominal fee and have increased exposure with guaranteed customers! The Friends will sell breakfast items, coffee and juice with those proceeds to fund the Annual Polar Express Pajama Party in December. Your proceeds are your own. Space is limited so reserve early. Forms are available in the library or by emailing friends@wblibrary.org.

Kinder Crafts (ages 3-7) Tuesdays at 7pm:
Process oriented art projects



Arts and Crafts (ages 8+ or with an adult)
Wednesdays at 6pm: Creative projects for the family

Fall Family Fun: Oct 27 from 10:30am to 1:30pm
A day of fall fun for families includes spooky storytime, pumpkin painting, face painting, and free play games. There will be ongoing pumpkin painting sessions where families can register in advance to paint a pumpkin. This is a BYOP (bring your own pumpkin) or paint a paper bag pumpkin event.



The Reel Truth: Oct 16 at 7pm. Do you ever wonder how Hollywood convinces us to see the movies they make? The author, a former NYU professor, explains it all.

Tiny Tails to You: Nov 10 at 11am.

Join us for a very special storytime complete with a petting zoo! We'll have chinchillas, rabbits, baby bunnies, hedgehogs, tortoises, miniature chickens, baby ducks, baby chicks, corn snakes, bearded dragons, guinea pigs and geckos. Space is very limited and each child needs an adult to participate. Registration opens Oct 26.



Storytimes

Mondays at 10am: Baby Storytime (0-18 months)

Mondays at 10:45am: Monkey in the Middle (12-24 months)

Tuesdays at 6:30pm: Pajama Storytime (all ages)

Fridays at 10am: Toddler Storytime (18-36 months)

Fridays at 10:45am: Preschool Storytime (3-6 yrs)

Saturdays at 11am: Storytime (all ages)

New After-School Programs for Kids

Wednesdays at 4:30pm

Oct 3: Brain Games - play board and video games

Oct 10: Comic Club - read, discuss, draw, and do crafts

Oct 17: Wacky Science - hands-on experiments

Oct 24: Lego Club - build with our guides or your imagination

Adult Computer Classes: NO CHARGE.

- Oct 3: *Word Basics at 6pm*
- Oct 6: *PowerPoint Basics at 10:30am*
- Oct 10: Learn a Language Online at 6pm
- Oct 13: *PowerPoint Intermediate at 10:30am*
- Oct 13: Facebook and Twitter at 1pm
- Oct 17: *Internet Basics at 6pm*
- Oct 24: Download Books for Free at 6pm
- Nov 3: *Computer Basics at 10:30am*
- Nov 7: Learn a Language Online at 6pm

* Limited space- reserve your seat at least 3 days in advance*



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

Or- subscribe to our feed on Twitter: @wblibrary

Starting September 1, 2012, all library cards need to be at least 5 digits long to accommodate the system. If you have a card number that is less than 5 digits, please bring it to the circulation desk for a free replacement

Vision for WB Workshop

Thursday, October 4 • 6:30-8pm

Fall is here and it's time to pick up where we left off last Spring! We will continue the Keep Wells Branch Beautiful Visioning Workshops Thursday, October 4 from 6:30-8:00pm at the Community Center on Klattenhoff. We took the summer off and the next session will focus on tactical actions to implement the strategies from the last workshop. This will call for forming Task Forces to put our plans into action.

The Visions, Blocks and Strategies Charts from previous workshops can be found on the Wells Branch Neighborhood Association website: www.wbna.us under Community, Visions for Wells Branch. If you look at the Strategies chart you will see that the community is already actuating some of them.

These workshops are open to all Wells Branch residents and are for the purpose of moving our community forward, increasing participation and confronting the issues that are before us. Come get "your oar in the water."

For questions, contact George Holcombe at 512-252-2756 or geowanda@earthlink.net.

ESD No. 2 State of the Department

Thursday, October 25 • 6:30pm • WBCC

Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2 / Pflugerville Fire Department provides services to almost 100,000 citizens covering 100 square miles. Growth in the community has increased response calls in excess of 6,000 alarms per year. The demand continues to rise and the District is faced with many challenges. It is incumbent of our Department to recognize this increased response call volume and growth within the District and engage the citizens in solutions to serve the growing needs of the community. "With this increased call volume placing a financial burden on our Department, we do not have a healthy business model and need to make adjustments", Fire Chief Ron Moellenberg.

We would like to personally invite Wells Branch residents to a "State of the Department" presentation by Fire Chief Moellenberg on Thursday, October 25, 6:30pm, Wells Branch Community Center, 2106 Klattenhoff. We look forward to seeing you at the presentation.

We thank you for your interest and appreciate your time and input.



Janet Maxey, MUD Board Candidate, Place 4

I'm Janet Maxey and I moved to Wells Branch in January of 1993 from Houston where I worked in accounting for 22 years. My husband Doug and I have three grown children: Doug, Annie and Tori.

Before being elected to the MUD Board, I was very active in the Wells Branch community. I served on the Armada Swim Team board for eight years as the Meet Director, on the WBNA board, and on the board of the McNeil High School PTA. I've helped with almost all of the special events in Wells Branch, be it MUD, WBNA, or Homestead and was coordinator of the Homestead Craft Show for many years.

As the first WB Rec. Center employee, I saw firsthand the need to broaden the recreational opportunities for Wells Branch residents and chose to run for the MUD Board in 2004 to help maintain facilities and increase amenities and programming for our community.

I currently serve as the Chair of the Recreation Committee and as a member of the Administrative and Public Safety Committees, as well as several ad hoc committees.

A staunch supporter of our youth groups and all community service groups, I'm known for my willingness to listen and respond to the community's concerns as well as my constant quest for new activities and amenities that will continue to keep Wells Branch in the Top 10 places to raise a family.



Ron Robinder, MUD Board Candidate, Place 4

As to my background, I have a doctorate in Physical Chemistry, awarded to me by Duke University and have spent most of my professional career as an engineer in display technologies. This enabled me to practice in fields as diverse as project management, mechanical design engineering, optics and electronics. In 2001, I became a Certified Linux Engineer.

For a time, I was a licensed real estate agent and I also was president of a small construction startup in Oregon that successfully built and sold a 17 home subdivision, allowing me to become quite familiar with many of the building trades and associated legal requirements about zoning and building standards.

I have been an active member of local churches in the communities where we have lived. I have held positions on the various administrative boards and been treasurer of more than one church, with responsibilities for maintaining the records of expenditures and assisting in establishment of budgets, along with doing active volunteer work in the maintenance of the physical facilities.

While we purchased our home in Wells Branch in February of 1997, we relocated to Connecticut for a job opportunity from October 2002 through October 2007. We've been back in Wells Branch for almost five years.

Now that I am retired from full-time employment, I believe that it is time that I began to give back some of my time and abilities to my local community.

Northwest Elementary News! by Betsey Harper
Happy Fall and "New Year" from Northwest Elementary! The first months of school are such a refreshing event in the life of a school community and our school is abuzz with the following upcoming events:

Oct. 4, 6:30pm: PTO Meeting, all parents are welcome
Oct. 8: Student Holiday
Oct. 18: Teacher Appreciation Luncheon provided by K and 4th graders
Oct. 26: Costume Party and Spirit Night; \$2 entry fee, music, snacks, and contests
Future events: Fall and Winter Music Programs, Parents Night Out, and Box Top collection.
New this year: Gently used coat and shoe closet. Drop off sites in Wells Branch and at NW Elementary will be listed in the next newsletter.

Surprise your child and for \$5 get their birthday displayed on our NW sign marquee. Contact Pam Boe at pamboe@earthlink.net.

Check out our new website: <http://cms.pflugervilleisd.net/Page/475> and like us on Facebook too. Look for the news in your child's school folders and on district and school websites, sign up on our listserv <http://cms.pflugervilleisd.net/Page/1254>, read community newsletters, or check out the outside sign marquee as you drive by. Research surely shows that a strong connection between home and school is one of the best things we can do for our children. Become involved!

FREE VIN Etching & Voter Registration



**Tuesday, October 9, 4-7pm,
Willow Bend Pool parking lot**

The Sheriff's Combined Auto Theft Task Force will be visiting WB one last time this year to provide FREE VIN etching for all of us here in Wells Branch. Please join your neighbors in taking advantage of this opportunity and have your vehicles etched; protect your property AND save on insurance.

In addition, we'll be getting everyone registered to vote at this event. If you're not registered yet or need to file a change of address, please stop by. It only takes a minute and this is the **last chance** to register before the election in November!

Wells Branch Elementary Headlines

by Belinda Cini, Principal

Wells Branch Elementary is off to a great start and we look forward to an exciting school year! Please mark your calendars for the following:

Oct. 8: No School, Parent/Teacher Conferences
Oct. 9, 6:30pm: PTA Meeting, Health and Fitness Fair (Fuel Up to Play 60 Kick-off)
Oct. 16: School Spirit Day - Rainbow or Color Day to Celebrate Differences
Oct. 18, 5:30pm: International Fair
Oct. 23, 5:00pm: McTeacher Night
Oct. 24, 12:45pm: Early Release
Oct. 26, 7:00pm: PTA Movie Night

Please visit our website at: <http://schools.roundrockisd.org/WellsBranch/>



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Dine-in

Not to be combined with
any other offers.

Must present coupon

600 Backpacks Donated

Members of Wells Branch Community Church pass out backpacks to children at Northwest Elementary and Wells Branch Elementary during their respective back to school nights. Thanks WBCC for helping our kids get off to a good start!



Correction to Last Issue

Regrettably, the WBNA published incorrect information in the last issue of the Neighborhood News. Chuck Walters was out of town and unable to proof the article honoring his community service before it went to press. He called immediately upon his return to tell us of corrections, but it was too late to make any changes. In the article, we stated that Chuck Walters had been a member of the Homestead Board since its inception, when, as it turns out, Mr. Walters did not join the board until after the MUD took over management of the Homestead in the late nineties. This brought with it the role as the Charter Organization Rep for both the BSA Pack & Troop. Mr. Walters has been involved in the Wells Branch Scouting program since its beginning, 20 years ago, but has only served in that position for the last several years. We regret any inconvenience caused by these statements.

Open Ears Concerts at St. Andrews

Open Ears Concerts, hosted by St. Andrews Presbyterian Church on Wells Port, is a monthly non-profit series that presents established and emerging artists, mainly in acoustic genres such as folk, bluegrass, world, and jazz.

Bring a dish to share in our potluck dinner and enjoy free fair trade coffee in a family-friendly, peaceful, listener-oriented environment. Doors open and potluck starts an hour before show time. All ages are welcome. While there is a suggested donation of \$10-\$15 for each show, no one will be turned away.

Saturday October 13, 7 pm: Jean Synodinos, opening act TBD.
Friday October 26, 7:30 pm: Marilyn Rucker CD Release Party
Thursday November 8, 7:30 pm: Kerrville New Folk Winners in the round.

Thursday November 15, 7:30 pm: Rebecca Loebe, opening act TBD.

For more information, see www.openearsconcerts.com



Chuck Walters, MUD Board Candidate, Place 2

A Wells Branch resident since 1983, I've had the opportunity to watch as our neighborhood has expanded and evolved and I've seen a true community atmosphere emerge through my participation and support of Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and the Armada Swim Team as my children grew.

After retiring from a successful career in management with Walgreens Drugs, I returned to Texas State and UT to complete my degree in Business Administration and Management of Information Systems. For the past 18 years, I've Project Managed large global programs and deployment of new factories for Dell, Inc.

During my 20 years of service on the WB MUD Board, I've worked to improve facilities, parks, amenities and thereby, property values. I've met with residents through several Park Master Planning sessions over the years to seek community input in the decision making process. I continue to work for compromise to realize the best solutions for our entire community. Our tax rates have remained consistent, without an increase in over 10 years, allowing for a stable environment and the strong financial condition of the MUD during my tenure.

As Chair of the Facilities and IT Committees, and a member of the Rec. Committee, I've led and supported numerous efforts, including park grants, community fence replacement and the Trees for Trails focus group (with fellow committee member Bob Bauhs). Our tax rates have remained steady, allowing for a stable environment and the strong financial condition of the MUD during my tenure.

Wells Branch is my home. I've raised my children here. I've helped grow Wells Branch into what we have today. Guided by our community, I have the knowledge, history and experience to maximize our potential for the future and for all the families who choose to call Wells Branch home.

I'd like to hear your vision for Wells Branch. Please contact me at Chuck4WBMUD@earthlink.net. Visit my Facebook page for a history of Wells Branch growth at <https://www.facebook.com/Chuck4WBMUD>



Joe Petronis, MUD Board Candidate, Place 2

I'm Joe Petronis, and I have lived in Wells Branch for over 5 years. During this time, I have enjoyed participating in many community events. Attending Wells Branch Community Church has given me additional opportunities to serve different aspects of our community.

Wells Branch is my home, and I want to ensure we are working towards a long term vision for our community.

Volunteering and being a part of the community is ingrained in me. While attending Vanderbilt University, I volunteered my project management skills with Hands On Nashville. I led a team to clean up a riverbed and organized volunteers at Warner Park to help with their festivals. As part of WBCC some of the events I have been involved with include handing out backpacks at Wells Branch and Northwest Elementary schools as well as helping with the Super Bowl Sunday Flag Football tournament.

On a personal note, I grew up in the small community of Lampasas, about an hour north of Austin. I studied Economics at Baylor and received an MBA in Finance from Vanderbilt University. I have worked at Dell as a project manager for over 8 years, helping to ensure things happen on time and as planned. My wife Mary is a 4th grade teacher in Pflugerville ISD.

I believe in managing resources wisely; utilizing efficient business practices; and demonstrating transparency. My experiences have taught me that everyone benefits when people are involved early in the decision making process and kept informed. Together, people can find the best ideas for maintaining and improving the community for future generations to enjoy.

My background equips me to be a valuable member of the MUD Board. I'm looking forward to continuing to serve our community and seeing what the future holds as we grow tomorrow!

To find out more about me, please visit www.facebook.com/joe4mud!

Upcoming MUD Events

Fall Youth Fishing Tournament

October 13 • 9am-Noon

Wells Branch hosts the annual youth fishing tournament for ages 17 and under from 9 a.m. to noon at Mills Pond. Enrollment into the tournament is free for all youth and trophies and prizes will be awarded. Equipment will be provided for those anglers who show up without. We will have fishing poles, hooks and bait. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department will stock the pond a week prior to the event. All state fishing regulations apply.



Halloween Trunk-or-Treat

October 31 • 6-9pm



Be sure and bring your trick-or-treaters by the Community Center parking lot on Klattenhoff for "Trunk-or-Treat". Take photos with your friends in our FREE photo booth, play games and get lots of candy! For those interested in decorating their car or truck, please contact the Recreation Center at 251-9814 for details.

*Due to the relocation of the WB MUD district offices, the annual Haunted House at the Annex at 14611 Wells Port has been cancelled.

Thanksgiving Potluck

November 17 • 5-7pm

Dedication Grove - 3:30pm

Before the dinner begins, Wells Branch Staff will congregate around the dedication grove to recognize new pavers added in memory and achievement. The dedication will begin at 3:30 p.m. Directly following the dedication, our Wells Branch neighbors once again come together for our annual Thanksgiving potluck dinner. The fellowship will be held from 5-7 p.m. at the Recreation Center, located at 3000 Shoreline Dr. Everyone is encouraged to bring a dish to serve 10. The turkey, ham, dressing, potatoes, bread, and beverages will be provided and served by the MUD



Youth Fowl Shot Contest

November 20 • 6-8 pm

Wells Branch youth are invited to test their basketball skills and maybe win a turkey to take home for Thanksgiving starting at 6 p.m. in the Wells Branch MUD Recreation Center.

Participants accumulate points by competing in a variety of basketball activities (Free Throw, H.O.R.S.E., 3pt Around the World, and possibly Knockout). Age groups will be split into three groups: 8-10, 11-13, and 14-17. Grand-prize winners from each age group will receive a turkey. Participants must have a valid recreation tag or pay the \$5 day pass fee to enter the gym and compete in the contest. Registration is free and will begin early November in the Rec. center.

Save the Date: Fall Clean-Up Day!

**Bulk Trash Drop Off • Hazardous Waste Collection
Drop Off for Salvation Army & Habitat for Humanity
Saturday, October 13 • 8am-5pm**

Here's your chance to clean out that garage or shed before winter! Bring your old batteries, oil, paint, and antifreeze to the WB MUD Maintenance Facility at 13905 Thermal Drive, Saturday, October 13, from 8am-5pm. The MUD is providing a trailer and staff to transport these items to the Hazardous Waste Facility in far South Austin as part of our continued Keep Wells Branch Beautiful efforts.

There are restrictions as to what can be collected and transported. Oil, paint and anti-freeze need to be in closed containers. If bringing car or boat batteries, a cardboard box would be appreciated (but not necessary). We cannot take light bulbs, fertilizer or other chemicals at this time.

In addition to the usual bulky trash collection, Ed & Kay Peterson have volunteered to help sort and transport any items that Habitat for Humanity or Salvation Army might be able to use.

Please check the WBNA site for more information & updates:
www.wbna.us
Questions?
Call Debby at
656-0654.



Covenant Corner

Home Repairs & Yard Maintenance

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

Keeping up the outside of your house is important not only because it's a condition of the covenants in most sections, but because it helps us all maintain our property values and keeps Wells Branch beautiful.

Our yards have taken a beating with the recent drought and many of us have dead trees or shrubs that need to be removed.

Now that the weather has cooled down, take a moment to assess the work needed and make a plan. It's worth the investment.

**If you have questions about the covenant restrictions for your area, please visit the MUD website at www.wells-branchmud.com and download a copy of the covenants specific to your area for quick reference. They also have a helpful section on frequently asked questions as well as their policy on citations. If you have received a letter and need more time, or circumstances do not allow you to resolve the problem at this time, notify the MUD at 484-2614; ask for covenant enforcement.*

In addition, Wells Branch Community Church runs a program called Neighbors in Need where they offer assistance with light repairs, etc. for those unable to do the work themselves. You may contact WBCC at 775-2660.

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\$20 minimum purchase. Cannot be combined with other offers. Dine in only. Must present coupon. Expires 11/30/12.

Craft Show Supports Project Graduation

McNeil High School's Project Graduation is once again hosting the 9th annual Home for the Holidays Arts & Crafts Show at McNeil High School. Our event will be held on Saturday, December 15th from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at McNeil High School. If you are a crafter and would like to participate, please contact us as soon as possible for an application. If you have additional questions, or to request an application, please contact Mona Speranza at 990-1634, gmsperanza@aol.com.

From Recent MUD Board Meetings

by Debby Thompson

Regular board meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of each month at the community center on Klattenhoff unless otherwise posted. All residents are invited and encouraged to attend. Meetings begin at 6:30pm. Agendas are posted the week prior to the meeting.

New Interim District Manager

We'd like to welcome the new Interim District Manager, Shirley Ross. She may be reached at sross@wellsbranchmud.com or 251-9814.

Jesse Kennis is no longer an employee of the District.

Budget Adopted and Tax Rate Set

The Board adopted a budget for the 2012-2013 fiscal year and kept the tax rate steady. Capital Improvements have been budgeted for and a Town Hall Meeting to discuss same will be scheduled in the near future. Please see the MUD website at www.wellsbranchmud.com for more details.

New Efforts to Encourage Community Input & Involvement

October 9 will be a work session for the WB MUD Board. Residents are invited and encouraged to participate through citizen communication not only at the beginning of the meeting, but at points throughout. One of the topics to be discussed will be the Disc Golf Course. Please watch for the posting of the Agenda on the MUD website for further details.

Wells Branch District Office Relocation & Renovation of Annex on Wells Port

Renovations to the Annex on Wells Port are almost complete and the WB MUD will be moving their District Office from its current location on Burnet Rd. to the Wells Port location this October. Only a portion of the Annex will be used for District offices; both BSA & GS meeting rooms will remain intact.

Trees for Trails

Tree plantings in three different areas along the trails are planned for this Fall & Winter. Dates to be determined.

Demolition of old office building on Shoreline

Bids should be reviewed, a contract awarded and a date set for the demolition of this structure at the Oct. 9 meeting.

Mills Pond Dam Compliance & Risk Assessment

These matters are currently under review. For more information, watch www.wellsbranchmud.com and check MUD meeting agendas.

Recycling participation continues to hover around 62%

Please do your part to get it back up!

IESI pays the WB MUD \$20 in rebates for each ton of recycling collected. Those funds, in turn, are dedicated to purchasing trees for our park system. We're able to recycle more products curbside than ever before! The more we pitch in and recycle, the more trees get planted, the healthier our park system. Please do your part. Recycle & remind your neighbors!

Recycling pickup only occurs every other week on regular trash pickup days. Clip and save this calendar or download a calendar thru December 2012 from our website: wbna.us. Visit our Recycling page under "Community" for the calendar and list of materials accepted.

Recycling Calendar
October 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			

November 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	

RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT Dianne Koehler: Energy, Drive, Passion & Hard Work.....



This month's issue features Dianne Koehler, one of the original residents of Wells Branch. It's hard to know where to start with Dianne; she's been involved in our neighborhood since its inception and has given so very much to our community.

This article doesn't begin to cover all of

Dianne's contributions to Wells Branch.

Let's start at the beginning. Dianne has always been good at "firsts". She was on the original committee that petitioned Pflugerville Fire Department to establish a station in Wells Branch, originally located on Thermal where the MUD maintenance office is today.

She served on the community center committee and walked the neighborhood gathering signatures for a petition to build the Community Center on Klattenhoff. Her forethought and drive helped bring this meeting place, which is used by the entire community, to fruition.

Together, Dianne and Rosewitha Bowker (with ideas from Dale Cockshutt) formed the WB Community Garden committee and worked together to get the garden started, establishing the plan to include the tool shed. Countless Wells Branch residents have enjoyed the opportunity to grow organic vegetables in plots close to home all because of their initial efforts.

Dianne was also one of the early WBNA board secretaries and newsletter editor and continues to share her wisdom with the community today through her gardening blog.

In the early days of Wells Branch, she served as the Homestead Board President on the first board past the developer for 8-9 years, working with the board to get historical recognition for the Gault Homestead and the marker for the property. While on the board, she worked on projects such as the garden construction at the Homestead (the raised stone beds encircling the fence around the cabin), increasing traffic to the facility so that our treasure might be shared, the Homestead Festival, and starting the homestead summer camps with Paula Cockshutt which eventually grew into "Stuff-to-do" camp.

In recent years, her passion for gardening led her to help create the Wells Branch Garden Guild, spreading the word on organic gardening and helping neighbors expand their knowledge and abilities through her expertise. Dianne continues to serve on the steering committee for this important community service group.

Dianne also volunteers her time with the Wells Branch Elementary Jr. Master Gardener Project. She served as a teacher during its initial year and will be sharing her skills and love of gardening with the children again this year.

Always a supporter of our parks and trails system, Dianne managed a fund raiser in 2011 for Trees for Trails and conducted an art & science mini-camp program in 2012 with 50% of the gross proceeds going to buy trees for our park system. She's also a member of the new MUD sponsored "Stream Team" helping to plan for the future of our parks.

Her love and talent for teaching continued to manifest itself through volunteerism with scouting groups in the Wells Branch area, teaching special classes and merit badges over the years. Dianne has influenced Wells Branch in so many ways, but she will most be remembered for bringing the library to Wells Branch. Dianne was a founder of the Wells Branch Community Library. She built it from the ground up starting with the petition drive (going door to door in her house slippers) on through the election establishing the tax district culminating in the design and construction of the building that houses the library (with many others). She served on the board for 12 years, 10 of those as president, many years as finance officer, and on the tech and finance committees as well. Dianne worked tirelessly for the WBCL, volunteering in excess of 20 hrs/week during several years. She donated hundreds of dollars for events to secure matching funds and staff perks in the early years. Teaching a once-a-week family art class, Dianne initiated the pumpkin painting program and a Christmas ornament program that not only paid for themselves but raised money for programming. In addition to the weekly art/craft activities, she helped start a summer mini-camp program as a fundraiser and conducted an art & science only program for several years.

One of the founding members of WBCL's first book club, *Wine, Women & Words*, and proud owner of Library Card "#1", she remains a vital part of our library community today.

Outspoken and not always tactful, Dianne has always been willing to fight for what she believes in, and she believes in Wells Branch. She's one of a kind and we wouldn't be where we are today if she hadn't been here from the beginning. Thank you Dianne, for helping to "Make Wells Branch Great!"

Build Character in your son By Mendy Barnett

The Wells Branch Homestead Corporation charters Cub Scout Pack 140. We invite boys 1st grade thru 5th grade to join us to learn core values and become strong leaders. Cub Scouts teaches young boys to be...

- Good citizens by being responsible and helping in community service projects
- Compassionate by being kind and showing concern
- Cooperation by being helpful and working together with others
- Courageous by being brave and doing what is right
- Faithful by being humble and having trust in God
- Healthy by being fit; keeping our minds and body clean
- Honest by being trustworthy and always telling the truth
- Perseverance by being strong and never giving up,
- Positive by being cheerful and seeking to find the best in all situations
- Resourceful by being mindful and using resources to their fullest
- Respectful by being obedient and showing worth to others
- Responsible by being loyal and fulfilling our duty to God, country, other people and ourselves

Scouting can help fulfill your dreams for your son. Please join us and contact us at join@pack140.org.



Community Calendar

- 10/2, 6:30pm: National Night Out, Gazebo at KF Park*
- 10/4, 6:30pm: Visions for Wells Branch, WBCC*
- 10/6, 8am-Noon: Friends of WB Library Garage Sale
- 10/9, 4-7pm: FREE VIN Etching & Voter Reg, WBP*
- 10/9, 6-8pm: ESD 2 Open House, 15300 Bratton Ln.
- 10/11, 6:30pm: WB MUD Board Candidate Forum, WBCC*
- 10/13, 8am-5pm: Fall Clean-Up Day, see pg. 17**
- 10/13, 9am-Noon: Youth Fishing Tournament-Mills Pond**
- 10/13, 9am: RRISD Candidate Forum, WBCC*
- 10/13, 7pm: Open Ears Concert, see pg. 14
- 10/17, 6:30pm: Low-income housing hearing, WB Elem.
- 10/17, 3-10pm: WB Happy Hour, Mezzaluna, 14735 Bratton Ln.
- 10/20, 11am: WBGG, Growing Herbs, WBRC*
- 10/20, 2-4pm: Homestead Tours, 2106 Klattenhoff **
- 10/22: Early Voting Begins
- 10/25, 6:30pm: ESD No.2 State of the Dept, WBCC*
- 10/26, 7:30 pm: Open Ears Concert, see pg. 14
- 10/31, 6-9pm: Trunk or Treat, WBCC Parking Lot*
- 11/1 to mid-Dec: ESD No.2 Food Drive, 15300 Bratton Ln.
- 11/4, 2am: "Fall Back" - Daylight Saving Time ends
- 11/6, 7am-7pm: VOTE!
- 11/8, 7:30 pm: Open Ears Concert, see pg. 14
- 11/15, 7:30 pm: Open Ears Concert, see pg. 14
- 11/17, 3:30pm: Dedication Grove, Pavillion at KF Park**
- 11/17, 5-7pm: Thanksgiving Potluck, WBRC**
- 11/20, 6-8pm: Youth Fowl Shot Contest, WBRC**
- *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; WBP=Willow Bend Pool, Bratton & Sauls.
- 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.



Family Pair
None Can Compare to our Family Pair!

Your Wells Branch Neighbor & Specialist!

- 2113 Delvin:** Huge yard on cul-de-sac w/laminate floors— *PENDING*
- 14407 Oceanna:** Majestic 2-story near hike/bike trail — *SOLD!*
- 15105 Natural Spring:** Gorgeous remodel w/granite cntrs — *SOLD!*
- 2001 Crystal Shore:** 4 bedroom w/laminate floors — *SOLD!*
- 3401 Bratton Heights:** Super yard w/remodeled kitchen — *SOLD!*
- 2408 Water Well:** Granite counters, walk to WB Elem — *SOLD!*
- 14765 Montoro:** Renovated 4 bedroom, backs to greenbelt — *SOLD!*

We sold 10 WB homes in last 6 mos: average sold price per sq ft=\$100.42

Judy DeWitt, Realtor®, GRI, ABR
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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.

September 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

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