



*Mills Pond hosts
youth fishing event • Page 5*

A newsletter
for the customers
of the Wells Branch
Municipal Utility
District

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Municipal Utility District

IT'S HOT AND DRY: WATER CONSERVATION RATES IN EFFECT!

WELLS BRANCH

WORD



Incumbent Smith wins new term on MUD board

In the only contested race for the MUD Board, incumbent Joy Smith racked up a re-election victory over challenger Bill Glass with 56.5 percent of the votes.

It was Glass's second defeat for the MUD Board. He ran and lost in 1998.

Smith won her second four-year term on the Board. "I'm grateful to all the voters for demonstrating they care about Wells Branch," she said, "I believe the result shows that the community is pleased with the direction the Board has been taking."

"We've lowered the tax rate three of the past four years to soften the blow of increased appraisals by the Travis County Appraisal District," Smith pointed out.

During that period, the MUD managed to plan and construct its new Indoor Recreation Center. It also launched its highly praised fence project.

Incumbents Donna Howe and Robert O'Donnell were unopposed for re-election. The three victors were sworn in at the MUD's May 7 meeting.

Residents with questions after the election are urged to contact the MUD office, 251-9814.



RECREATION CENTER DEDICATION — MUD Directors Donna Howe, Robert O'Donnell, Chuck Walters and Joy Smith cut the cake at the April 20 dedication of the Indoor Recreation Center. Hundreds of citizens came out to enjoy music and food at the new facility. (More Photos, Page 4).

INSIDE

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Behind the scenes in MUD's recycling

By Matthew Myers / BFI

Recycling at curbside on your collection day produces several environmental benefits.

First, for every ton of material you recycle, you save 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space. For every ton of newspaper you recycle, you save the equivalent of 17, forty-foot pulp-producing trees. You also save 380 gallons of oil and 6000 gallons of water. All of this would have been used to produce one ton of virgin pulp.

Many regional markets purchase recyclable material. First, your **newspaper** is typically shipped to either Abitibi Consolidated, which operates a mill in Sheldon, Texas, or to US Fiber in Waco. Newspaper is usually made into more rolls of newsprint.

Your **glass bottles and jars** are sent to Dlubak Glass in Houston. More glass bottles and jars are made from the broken cullet we send them. Of all the items we recycle for you, glass is the most costly due the amount of broken residual glass that is not recovered. We also have to pay to have the glass cullet shipped to Houston, and we do not receive any revenue for the glass.

Steel cans are sent to Pro Metal Processing. Steel cans are typically made into rebar for road or building reinforcement

Aluminum cans are sent to Austin Metal and Iron. They then resell the bales to either Alcoa or Golden Aluminum. Aluminum cans are made into sheet aluminum or aluminum bricks or ingots.

The **plastic milk jugs** (High Density Polyethylene No. 2) and transparent soda or drinking containers (Polyethylene Terephthalate No. 1) is sent to KW Plastics in Houston.

Your contribution to recycling matters.



Wells Branch

Community Policing

Don't give thieves an opening

The best way to help keep your property and your family safe is to add those extra steps to remove openings for the bad guys.

For instance: Do you leave your garage door opener in your car? Do you leave your car in the driveway? In recent incidents around Austin, thieves broke into cars and used the garage door openers to gain access to the home. Some important reminders:

- Leave your garage door down and locked when you're not around or even in the back yard puttering. Don't invite thieves in.
- Remove your valuables from the car when you park it. If you must leave valuables in the car, place them in the trunk.
- Lock your car when it's parked outside your garage.
- Conceal your garage door opener if it's in your car. You wouldn't leave your housekeys lying around where anyone could take them; the same goes with garage door openers.

Summertime means water-saving time

At presstime, Wells Branch, like the rest of Austin, needed rain. Lots of it. The MUD encourages you to follow the regional, once-every-five-day watering schedule (at right).

As a City of Austin wholesale customer, the MUD must follow the water conservation plan. Last November, the MUD adopted conservation rates designed to reward water efficiency.

If you save water, you save money.

Your lawn and shrubs need about 1 inch every five days. More than that is usually wasted.

For information, call 251-9814.

Compost guidelines

1. Place your container(s) of grass clippings, leaves and brush at curbside by 8 A.M. MONDAY. Items placed at curbside after 8 a.m. cannot be picked up.
2. Please place grass clippings in the containers, NOT IN PLASTIC BAGS.
3. Place limbs which are too large for the containers on the ground next to the containers. Please cut the limbs — about 6 feet is an ideal length.
4. Do not put rocks, ashes, lumber, animal waste or other trash in the containers.
5. If you need additional tubs or information, call 251-9814.

RATE, MONTHLY BILL COMPARISON

For normal usage, your monthly utility bill is lower in Wells Branch than it would be if the City of Austin were charging you directly. Here's a comparison. (*Note that we're giving Austin the benefit of the doubt on one score. The \$17.25 for garbage is for a 90-gallon container, and you'd pay more if you threw away more. Wells Branch containers are larger, with no limits.) For more information, call 251-9814 or consult www.wellsbranchmud.com.

WELLS BRANCH MUD

Wastewater/1,000 gals. (Based on Winter Averaging)	4.12
Water/1,000 gals.	
0-6,000 gallons	2.48
6001-12,000 gallons	3.10
12,001-18,000 gallons	4.90
18,001 gallons+	5.90
Fees	
Base fee*	20.75
(includes solid waste/recycling)	
Park fee	1.00

Monthly bill with
5,000 gallons water,
5,000 gallons wastewater **\$54.75**

Monthly bill with
10,000 gallons water
6,000 gallons wastewater **\$73.75**

Monthly bill with
15,000 gallons water
7,000 gallons wastewater **\$98.77**

CITY OF AUSTIN

Customer Account fee/Wastewater	\$2.60
Wastewater/1,000 gals.	
0-2000 gallons	3.00
2,001 gallons+	5.40
Customer Charge/Water (5/8" meter)	3.32
Water/1,000 gals.	
0-2,000 gallons	0.70
2001-9000 gallons	2.00
9001-15,000 gallons	3.50
15,001 gallons +	6.02
Fees	
Garbage*	17.25
Transportation	3.67
Drainage utility	5.21
Anti-litter	2.60

Monthly bill with
5,000 gallons water,
5,000 gallons wastewater **\$64.25**

Monthly bill with
10,000 gallons water
6,000 gallons wastewater **\$81.15**

Monthly bill with
15,000 gallons water
7,000 gallons wastewater **\$104.05**

If your street address ends in



Watering Calendar

Then your watering days are

Watering Hours:

lawn and sprinklers:
midnight - 10 am, plus 7 pm - midnight

underground systems:
midnight - 10 am



Street Address Range	Street Address Range	Street Address Range	Street Address Range	Street Address Range
May 2, 7, 12, 17, 22, 27	June 1, 8, 11, 16, 21, 26	July 1, 8, 11, 16, 21, 26, 31	Aug. 5, 12, 15, 20, 25, 30	Sept. 4, 9, 14, 19, 24, 29
May 3, 8, 13, 18, 23, 28	June 2, 9, 12, 17, 22, 27	July 2, 9, 12, 17, 22, 27	Aug. 6, 13, 16, 21, 26, 31	Sept. 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30
May 4, 9, 14, 19, 24, 29	June 3, 10, 13, 18, 23, 28	July 3, 10, 13, 18, 23, 28	Aug. 7, 14, 17, 22, 27	Sept. 6, 11, 16, 21, 26
May 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30	June 4, 11, 14, 19, 24, 29	July 4, 11, 14, 19, 24, 29	Aug. 8, 15, 18, 23, 28	Sept. 7, 12, 17, 22, 27

Hundreds dedicate indoor rec center

As construction finishes, Wells Branch's new recreation center will be open for some activities the week of May 27.

The center features a gymnasium large enough for two simultaneous basketball games, a weight room and four multipurpose rooms for activities ranging from community meetings to classes.

The center was dedicated April 20, and turf was still being put down as balloons for the festivities were going up (right), but hundreds of Wells Branch residents came by to get their first looks at the center (below left and right).



Good fences make good neighborhood

Wells Branch is continuing its face-changing fence project.

The project began in October 2000 to replace wood fences — in various stages of decay — with long-lasting and eye-pleasing concrete fencing.

District Manager Don H. Williams said that he anticipates the project will continue another six months.

Currently crews are working along Bratton Lane, in synch with County road crews that are finishing improvements to that thoroughfare. Once that portion of the fencing is completed, the effort will return to the area in Stone Ridge along Wells Port Drive.

Williams said that lately, the work has been slowed because of a shortage of materials. "The installers are working faster than they can make new product," he said.

The fence project along major streets in Wells Branch has drawn almost universal praise because of the way it has improved the appearance of the neighborhood.

Observers are confident it will bolster the value of all properties in Wells Branch, even those whose fences weren't replaced.

Williams said that some fence material that was recovered and replaced is available.

For information, call 251-9814

Residents urged to attend board meetings

Wells Branch MUD board of director meetings are open to the public, and directors are glad to hear from residents.

The MUD board, which normally meets the first and third Tuesdays of the month, meets on a pared-down summer schedule with meetings June 4 and July 16. Meetings are at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center.

MUD hosts kids' triathlon May 25-26

Wells Branch will play host to about 150 youngsters from across Texas during the weekend of May 25-26 for the IronKids Triathlon Series.

The series, underwritten by IronKids Bread, offers ten events nationwide that lead up to the national championship in Sacramento later this year.

The event challenges kids ages 7-14 (as determined by their birthday in 2002) to run, bike and swim, much like the adult triathlon.

Kids compete in two age categories: junior and senior. Junior (age 7-10) contestants swim 100 meters, bicycle five kilometers (3.1 miles) and run one kilometer. Seniors (age 11-14) double those lengths.

The event will be centered on Willow Bend Pool with registration and swim safety verification at noon Saturday (May 25).

The competition gets underway at 8 a.m. Sunday.

Competitors will swim their laps, then don helmets and clothes for the bicycle race. Streets in the Long Vista area, just north of Mills Pond and the Willow Bend areas, will be closed for the race to help assure safety of participants.

After two laps around the bicycle course, contestants will take their footrace through the new pedestrian tunnel and down Wells Branch trails, then back to the pool.

For more information, contact local coordinator Stan Tucker at 288-9787 or cell 422-9398.

"The MUD has been extremely generous with its support," said Tucker, "We hope this will provide this activity to children for many years to come."

Wells Branch youth fishing

Wells Branch's Mills Pond played host to the highly popular youth fishing event May 11. The event lets parents and children enjoy an outing and learn a little about how to fish. Winners were:

0-6-YEAR-OLDS: Erin Pustejovsky, 15.5 in. catfish; Michael Totedo, 8 in. perch; Kai Noble, 8 in. bass.

7-11-YEAR-OLDS: Joseph Martinez, 13 in. bass; (tie) Destinee Meier, Fahmida Tuly, Sophie Maresh and Natalie Casper, each with an 8 in. perch.

12-16-YEAR-OLDS: Jamie Poff and Shannon Flood, 4.5 in. bass.



Above: Erin Pustejovsky receives her award for winning the 0-6-Year-Old Division. Left: MUD Board Pres. Chuck Walters and Recreation Manager Dawn Moonan present a trophy to Joseph Martinez, winner of the 7-11-Year-Old Division. Right: Jamie Poff and Shannon Flood landed a 4.5 in. bass to win the 12-16-Year-Old Division.



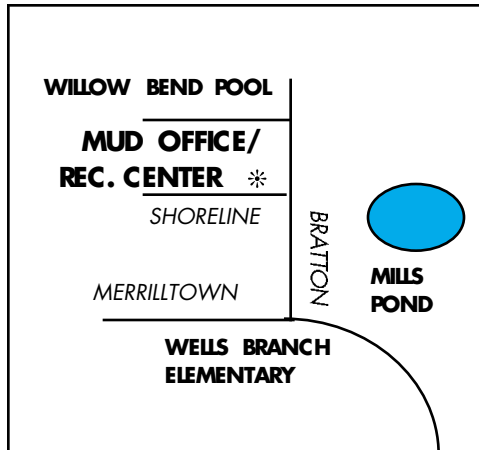
WELLS BRANCH WORD

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A map showing the location of 'NORTHWEST ELEMENTARY' and 'FACILITIES OFFICE'. 'Wells Branch Pkwy.' runs diagonally from the top left to the bottom right. 'Thermal Drive' runs diagonally from the top right to the bottom left, intersecting 'Wells Branch Pkwy.'. 'NORTHWEST ELEMENTARY' is located to the left of 'Wells Branch Pkwy.'. 'FACILITIES OFFICE' is located to the right of 'Thermal Drive'.

Dumpster available 2nd Saturday of month

You can get rid of those larger-than-usual items on the second Saturday of each month at the MUD's Facilities Office, 13905 Thermal Drive.

A dumpster will be, literally, at your disposal.

The dumpster cannot accept some items, such as paints, solvents, hazardous chemicals, whole drums, auto batteries, items with CFCs or tires.

For information, call 251-9814.

TomatoFest provides sauce appeal May 26

It's time once again to use your noodle and come up with the best spaghetti sauce as Wells Branch hosts its annual TomatoFest at 4:30 p.m. Sunday May 26.



Like the first ripe tomatoes of the year, TomatoFest heralds the beginning of summer in Wells Branch.

Bring your saucy sauce to the Wells Branch Community Center for judging. At 5 p.m., even if you haven't brought any sauce, you can enjoy the spaghetti dinner for only \$3 for adults and \$2 for children.

Live music on the Community Center patio will add spice to the event. At 7 p.m., after the dishes are cleared, it's time for grown-ups to enjoy the annual casino party in the Community Center. Winners of the funny-money at the tables can use their well-gotten gains to bid on items.

Kids can enjoy supervised games for ages 5 to 8 on the Katherine Fleischer Park ballfield from 7 to 9 p.m.

For more information, call the MUD at 251-9814.