



# The Wilchester Herald

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

NOVEMBER 2011

## NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- **November 4**  
Reflections deadline
- **November 15**  
PTA meeting @9:30  
Flex Room
- **November 23-25**  
Thanksgiving Break



- **November 29**  
Los Tios Night 5-9 pm

## A note from our Principal...

Dear Wilchester Families,

The school year has gotten off to a great start! The new building looks fantastic and we all look forward to making new memories in our brand new school. I continually receive comments from neighborhood folks and even people in the community who have heard about how amazing our new school is. I am so proud to be part of this process.

Please join us this Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> for the Wilchester Ribbon Cutting Event from 4:00-5:00pm. Our Superintendent of Schools, Duncan Klussmann, will be speaking as well as Pam Goodson and other local dignitaries. Also, Wilchester students will be participating in the celebration by leading the pledge of allegiance, playing music, as well as a time capsule presentation by the Student Council. Afterwards, join us for a walk around the school and light refreshments. It will be a great time to tour and to celebrate together!

Recently, questions have come up about the timeline for the playground. As difficult as it is to watch and wait, we are still within the original timeframe for installation. I spoke with the contractor again today and in the next few weeks the fall surface will be installed, the playground equipment will be delivered, and the grass will go in. In short, the playground will not be available at the earliest until after Thanksgiving break.

I want to continue to thank everyone for their patience and flexibility in the building process. We are truly blessed to have such an amazing new school for the kids!

Regards,

**Rian Evans**

# Wilchester PTA President

Fall is in the air! Pumpkin patches have sprung up, Holiday Markets are in full swing and the retailers have Christmas decorations everywhere. What a great October we had at Wilchester and what a fun November we have in store!

Thanks **Melinda Hickey** and crew for putting on a fabulous **Dads & Donuts**. I know quarters were tight, but it sure made it easy to mingle and with only a few leftover donuts and kolaches, every Dad and child left with a full tummy!

**Tracy Ashmore, Beverly McConn, Yvonne Rathgeb and Tamara Nesser** outdid themselves at **Fall Family Fun Night!** It was a beautiful night for sitting outside or enjoying Bingo inside! Thanks to all who pitched in with decorations and cleanup! Our retailers extraordinaire (aka **Spirit Sales**), **Leigh Haney, Rhonda Overbergen and Deborah Weitzel** sold lots of great Wilchester goodies and **Carolyn McCall** and **Mary McDonald** put on another great Scholastic Book Fair to round out the evening festivities.

Thank you **Kelly Devlin** for coordinating our **PTA membership drive**. We had another year of great participation from parents and faculty!

**Red Ribbon Week** is always a special week for the kids to make their pledge to be drug free! The weeklong festivities are a highlight every year, so thank you **Michelle Perkins, Robin Harger and Kristina Early** for spearheading this important event!

Hopefully, everyone was able to make it to our **Grand Opening Ceremony**. At the time of submission, rain was in the forecast, so I am hopeful it didn't rain on our parade and you all enjoyed the hard work of our planning committee chaired by **Jeannie Able and Angela Dina**. **Debbie Dodds and Vanya Karia** and their team of homeroom volunteers put together a fabulous time capsule complete with priceless quotes from our kids. I had the opportunity to read some of their plans for the future and all I can say is ... "The future is very bright!"

**Reflections** entries are due by November 4<sup>th</sup> and I know Jenni Emery and Trish Padilla are hoping to have a big turnout at the Ice Cream Party for all who participate, so your sugar loving kids won't want to miss out on the fun! Early drop off dates are listed in Tuesday Folder and on the PTA website.

Our 5<sup>th</sup> graders recently completed their artwork for the directory and **Diana Bates, Karen Madaras and Robin Parker** are hoping to have Directories to you as soon as they come off the press.

We had a great **PTA Meeting** this month. **Mr. Evans** answered questions and gave a great update on the school. Thank you also to **Sara Guillory** for filling us in on your new position as iCoach! If you aren't able to attend a PTA Meeting, be sure and read the PTA minutes posted on our website by our Secretary, **Leigh Fowler**. There is a lot of great info discussed each month and you won't want to miss the details! Our November meeting is the **15th at 9:30 in the Flex Room**. We will have representatives from the Spring Branch Education Foundation and SBISD's Community Relations office as our guest speakers.

Be sure and lace up your tennis shoes and hit the pavement to train for our first **Wildcat 5K/1K Fun Run** on December 10<sup>th</sup>! Info is coming home in Tuesday folders! This is our Fall Fundraiser, so we hope to have 100% participation (sleep-in sponsorships are available).

Thanksgiving is upon us and I am certainly blessed by each one of you and your hard work, support and volunteerism! May each of your families have a restful holiday!

**Sharon Muschalik**

**Texas  
PTA<sup>®</sup>**

*everychild.onevoice.<sup>®</sup>*

# AND THE WINNERS ARE...

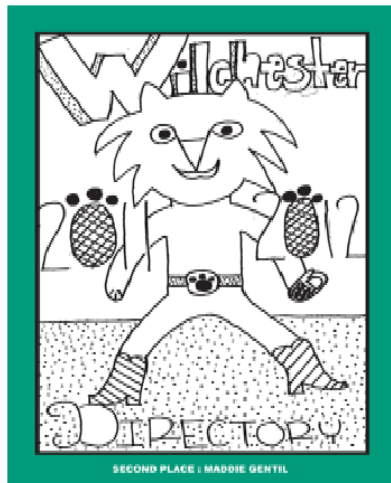


1<sup>st</sup> Place

Lauren Dodds

Wilchester PTA Directory

Cover Design Contest!



2<sup>nd</sup> Place  
Maddie Gentil



3<sup>rd</sup> Place  
Charlotte Barnes

Honorable Mention Amy Djvik

The Directory Committee would like to thank Ms Nancy Perkins and the talented 5th grade artists for submitting such terrific artwork for the directory cover this year!

Karen Madras, Robin Parker & Diana Bates

# SHOW YOUR WILDCAT PRIDE!



## Wildcat Spirit Sales Order Form 2011-2012

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Item Description	Price	#of items	Youth			Adult			
			Sm	Md	Lg	Sm	Md	Lg	XL
Wilchester T-shirt	\$12								
Sweatshirt with GREEN	\$26								
Sweatshirt with PINK	\$26								
Boys Basketball short	\$14								
Girls paw print short	\$17								n/a
Bumper Sticker	\$2								
'Wildcat Rocks' wrist band	\$3								
Water bottle	\$5								
Wilchester Duffle bag	\$15								
Drawstring bag	\$7								
Sparkle pencil	\$1								
Green bow	\$13								
<b>TOTAL of my order:</b>	\$								

\*Make checks payable to Wilchester PTA (return to child's teacher or to the front office)

Call Deborah Weitzel if you have any questions (713)647-8636

To see pictures of items go to [www.wilchesterpta.com](http://www.wilchesterpta.com)

\*\*\*PLEASE Do NOT staple checks to form.....Thank You!\*\*\*

## Music Notes



# Music Programs for 2011-2012

Kindergarten Thanksgiving Show	Friday, November 18	8:30 am
Third Grade	January TBA	
Fifth Grade	Tuesday, February 7	7 pm
First Grade	Friday, April 13	8:30 am
Fifth Grade Talent Show	Friday, May 25	TBA

All performances will take place in the WCE cafeteria. Make plans to attend!

**Maureen Johnson**

**Music**   
Lasts a Lifetime

# News from the Art Department

## Directory Design Winners Announced!

*The first project of the year for all Wilchester 5<sup>th</sup> graders is to design a cover for the Wilchester Student Directory. Artists are challenge to unify three ideas: Wilchester; the carnival theme; as well as communication into a unified design. We also study Balance and Harmony as well as the Art Element- Value. When the designs are complete they are turned over to Stratford AP Art students who select the winners. This year's winning designs are:*

First Place	Lauren Dodds
Second Place	Maddie Gentil
Third Place	Charlotte Benes
Honorable Mention	Amy Djuvik

*Congratulations to these artists as well as all the other 5<sup>th</sup> graders who completed a design. Every student's work will be included in this year's student directory.*

## Altheretta Yeargin Art Museum Art Classes

*We are so very lucky to live in close proximity to the SBISD Altheretta Yeargin Art Museum located on the Westchester Academy campus. I'd like to bring to your attention their program known as:*

### *"First Saturday Events"*

*These Saturday events, held the first Saturday of each month (10am to 1pm), are free of charge. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend some family time together learning about art as well as creating a fun project, For more information about the activities please visit:*

[www.ayam@springbranchisd.com](http://www.ayam@springbranchisd.com)

## Museum of Fine Arts Houston—KING TUT

Houston MFA is hosting an exhibit of King Tutankhamen from October 16 through April 15. This topic just fascinates kids (both young and old) and I hope you will have the opportunity to view it. Some of the artifacts on display have never been shown to the public before- so, it's worth the trip!

Nancy Perkins



# Teacher Appreciation



## **Fifth Grade Rocks!**

We would like to thank all of the fabulous 5th grade parents for their support in making the Teacher Appreciation such a huge success! We were able to treat the Wilchester Teachers & Staff to a special Halloween lunch from Palazzo's Trattoria.

The following parents generously donated their time, money and efforts:

Beth Kelly  
Denise Oliphant  
Clint Harrington  
Cheryl Aven  
Robin Harger  
Beth Roberts  
Allison Millan  
Laura Benes  
Elizabeth Elliott  
Kristina Early  
Lisa Verbeke  
Betsy Riedel  
Tana Tamez  
Michelle Vanderwoort  
Christine Gentil  
Holly Mosby  
Susie Harsley  
Sue Harkins  
Carma Gibler  
Miriam Posey  
Sally Hogue  
Pam Ziegenbein  
Kate Keimig

Beverly McConn  
Donna Waitkus  
Catherine Kight  
Holly Molina  
Donna Payne  
Amy Delgado  
Kim Perdomo  
Roxanne Camden  
Delisa Williams  
Sharon Muschalik  
Kim Hannigan  
Lisa Henkel  
Theresa Hanszen  
Lin Healy  
Yvonne Rathgeb  
Debbie Wedel  
Nada Diab  
Debbie Dodds  
Kathy Goss  
Amy Hancock  
Tracy Ashmore  
Sue Bach

**Laura Ashley & Janie Reister, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher Appreciation Chairs**

# Fall Family Fun Night

Wildcats,

We definitely **“Made Our Mark”** at the 2011 Fall Family Fun Night! We would like to thank everyone who came out and supported this event. The money will be put to good use in the efforts to continue to improve our new campus.



We especially want to thank individuals who were hands on in assisting us in the coordinating of Fall Family Fun Night. Thank you to Principle Rian Evans, Melissa Catalan, Rebecca New, Ms. Daily, Mr. Peters, Mrs. McDonald, Ms. Perkins, Ms. Johnson, and Sharon Crump for helping us with all the logistics that were involved in having this event in a new school.

To Debbie Dodds, Sharon Muschalik and Melinda Hickey we would like to thank you for sharing with us your experiences from past Wilchester fundraisers.

Christine McDonald, Amy Badger, Anne LaBaume and Christy Maloy were very helpful in getting families “Checked In” for their food.

A HUGE thank you to Gloria Rodriquez, who worked tirelessly in helping us with the configuration of the tables, assisted in set-up and kept our school clean before, during and after the event.

Thank you goes out to Julie Salvagio from Chick-Fil-A for not only bringing the food to Wilchester but also for staying for hours to ensure that all the food was put together!

We would like to thank Sally Everett, Sue Bach, Ashley Satterwhite and Mary Ranger for helping with the “Check Out” process of the Silent Auction.

Kyle Tellez and Eric Bach assisted in the setting up and tearing down of tables in addition to helping with loading and unloading supplies for the evening.

All in all, Fall Family Fun Night not only brought the Wilchester families together in our new building for a night of **FUN**, but also managed to exceed our goal in raising money for our wonderful school.

Sincerely,

**Tracy Ashmore, Beverly McConn, Tamara Nesser and Yvonne Rathgeb**

# REFLECTIONS !

**2011 THEME:**



**ENTRY DEADLINE is NEXT FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4<sup>th</sup>!**

Entries can be brought to the Library on November 4<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

OR there is still time to take advantage of the remaining early drop off dates and times listed below.

## EARLY DROP OFF OPPORTUNITIES

Tuesday, 11/1 from 12:00 - 7:00 at 13626 Pebblebrook

Thursday, 11/3 from 3:00 - 8:00 at 13306 St. Mary's

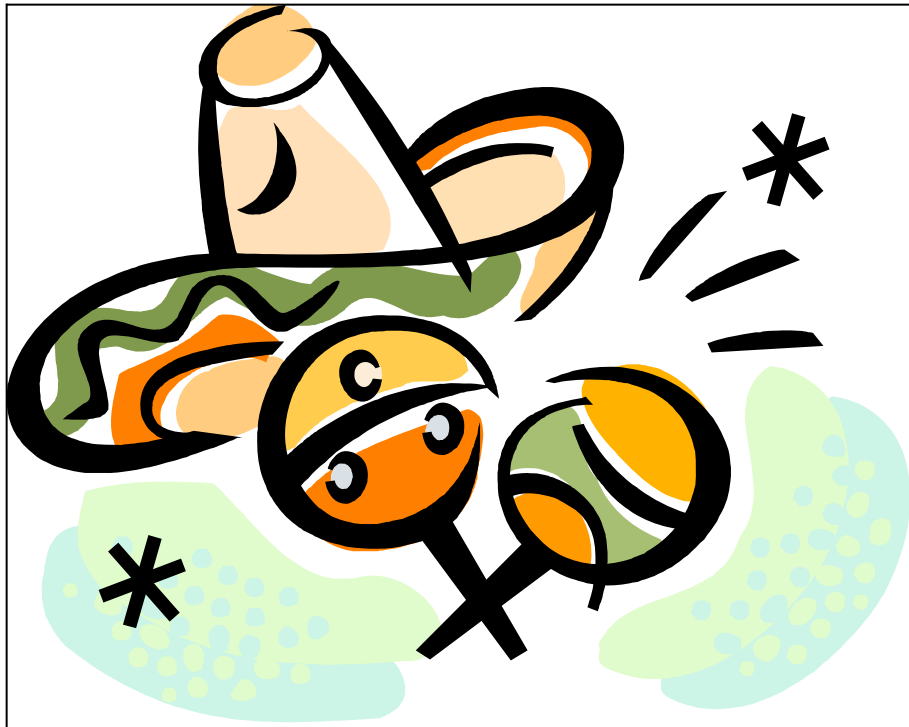
Please carefully review the guidelines for the category that your child is entering. There are very specific requirements for presentation and formatting that vary by category.

Entry forms, rules and guidelines are available at [www.wilchesterpta.com](http://www.wilchesterpta.com).

If you have any questions or comments, please contact:

Jenni Emery  
Trish Padilla

[jljemery@msn.com](mailto:jljemery@msn.com)  
[trishia.padilla@earthlink.net](mailto:trishia.padilla@earthlink.net)



## *Wilchester Fiesta Night at LOS TIOS*

*Tuesday, November 29, 2011*

*5:00-9:00 p.m.*

Los Tios at Memorial & Kirkwood

will donate 20% of sales to our PTA !

(excluding alcohol and tax)

Come join friends and neighbors,  
eat great Mexican food, and support our school!

*\*Please give this flyer to your wait staff so that Wilchester  
receives credit!\**

Questions? Contact **Susanne Miller** [susanne@jmbp.com](mailto:susanne@jmbp.com)

## Wildcat Updates



# Fun Run

Wilchester's 1st Annual Fun Run/Walk (5K/1K)

Saturday, December 10th ~ **Save the Date!**

This will be our Fall Fundraiser so we look forward to a HUGE turnout! If you are interested in volunteering or becoming a sponsor, please contact:

**Christine Gentil, VP Ways & Means**

@ 713-463-8562

Start your training today...

**RUN ON WILCHESTER!**



### Wilchester PTA Membership

Thank you for joining the Wilchester PTA this year! In addition to supporting our school, your PTA membership provides additional benefits. Member enjoy discounts with the following:

Southwest Airlines  
T-Mobile  
Sea World  
La Quinta Inn & Suites  
Nationwide  
Enterprise Rent-a-Car  
Dell  
Schlitterbahn Waterparks  
Six Flags

To receive the user name and password needed to access these discounts, please contact

**Kelly Devlin, PTA Membership Chair**, [kellydevlin@gmail.com](mailto:kellydevlin@gmail.com) or 281-531-1369.



## Coat Drive for Spring Shadows Elementary, Wilchester's SBISD Sister School

During the month of November, we will be collecting both **new and gently used children's coats and gloves** for the children at Spring Shadows Elementary. Over half their students walk to school and they have expressed a need for this drive.

Collection bins will be located in the front of the school as well as the cafeteria throughout the month of November. We are accepting coats, jackets, gloves and raincoats.

Thank you in advance for your support of these kids!

Patrice Jegi

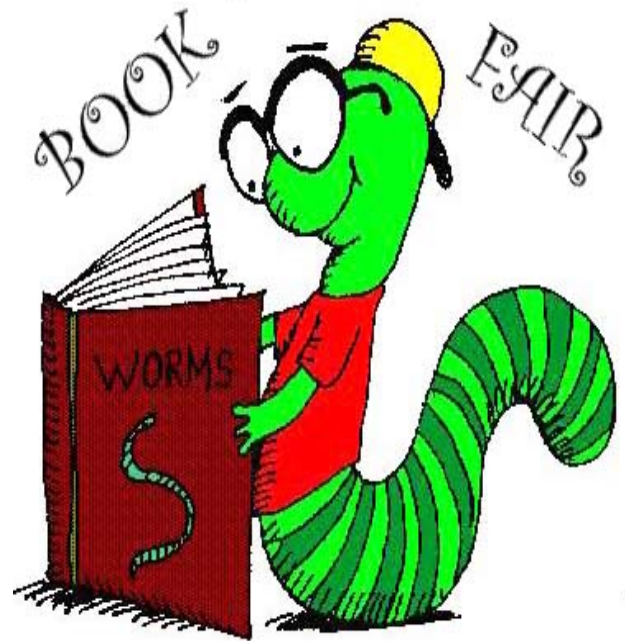
## Fall Book Fair

Thanks to all of the families who supported the fall Book Fair – it was a huge success!

A big thank you to the volunteers who helped set up and tear down:

Jane Chesterman, Vanya Karia, Carrie McKemie, Twee Moon, Megan Owen, Tera Rush, Lori Troutman and Julie Siciliano.

Carolyn McCall



## Dads & Donuts

Dads & Donuts 2011 was elbow to elbow and donut to donut. A HUGE thank you to my early risers for all their hard work and help:

Amy Badger, Julie Dearing, Debbie Dodds, Karen Erwin,  
Christine Gentile, Stephani Hess, Tamma Howell,  
Linda Purvis, and Stephanie Tippit!

Also, a big shout out to Kyle Tellez for helping clean up!

Melinda Hickey, VP Programs





# *Wilchester Time Capsule*

*2011-2036*

Thank you to the over 50 parent volunteers who helped compile hundreds of our children's thoughts for the Wilchester Scrapbook to be placed in our Time Capsule. Students were asked to complete the sentence, "In the year 2036..." Responses included everything from "I will be a pirate." to "There will be a cure for cancer." It will be interesting to see how accurate the responses are and discover which child's autograph will be worth **GOLD** 25 years from now. Special thanks to Elizabeth Bruce who spruced up some of the school common pages with her scrapbooking expertise.

Thanks also to Rebecca New for checking in and out scrapbook materials and to all our wonderful teachers who allowed our volunteers to make a great piece of history for our children.

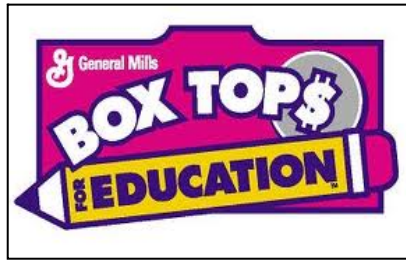
The Wilchester Time Capsule (Scrapbook and other items) was presented at the Grand Opening Ceremony on Thursday, October 27. The Scrapbook is on display at the front desk until burial. (Date TBD.) Catch a glimpse now or wait until 2036!

Your Time Capsule Coordinators,

**Debbie Dodds and Vanya Karia**

# Thanks for your BoxTop\$!

Our Fall Collection has been submitted.



Keep collecting for our Spring Collection Date – the drop off box will be in the library all year. Raid your grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, neighbors and friends pantry when you visit them during the holiday season.

**Remember:** If you are shopping online, do it through [www.btfe.com/marketplace](http://www.btfe.com/marketplace) and Wilchester gets **automatic** eBoxTop\$ added to our account.

Help us raise as much money for our school library as we can.

## We're Back, Baby!

Don't forget to bring your newspapers, magazine, junk mail, shopping catalogs, office and school papers and cardboard to our ***four fabulous new recycle bins.***

Your paper and cardboard equals money for Wilchester and less paper in the landfill.

Bins are located in the campus parent parking lot on the south end.



# Wild Wilchester



Volume 2, Issue 1

Save the Date: May 11th

## Rodeo Clowns

**Logistics:** Cheryl Brady

**Prize Drawing:** Lisa Manke

**Games and Rides:** Kathy Goss

**Decorations:** Elizabeth Bruce

## How Can I Help?

What can you do to help with Carnival? All parents will be contacted by their homeroom Carnival Chair to work a 30 minute shift at a booth for their child's class. If you have more than one child at Wilchester, you will get to work more than one booth! Either parent can work the booth. If you want to do more, call a chair to sign up to help. Have a special talent painting or decorating? Call Elizabeth Bruce! Have a knack for soliciting businesses for donations? Call Lisa Manke! Love to clean? Know how to work a walkie talkie? Call Cheryl Brady to help set-up, tear down or work security. Don't forget, we need muses! Ask your husbands to help!

Tired of all those Happy Meal prizes and "treasures" from birthday parties? Start cleaning out those drawers and closets for Fun Junk! There is a bin for Fun Junk at the reception area of the school!

## Family Donations

What are family donations? Family donations, like block donations, are a huge part of Prize Drawing. Donations are only limited by your creativity, resources and imagination! Family donations might include resources you have through a business, talents you and your family have, or other items that you would want to donate. Donations come in all shapes, sizes and amounts...as always, nothing is too small. Look for fun items on sale during the Christmas holidays! Check your "gift closets" for nice gifts that you were unable to use that might be donated to carnival's Prize Drawing. All donations are listed in a catalog to be received prior to carnival.

Questions? Call Lisa Manke. Already Have an item: Drop off at Lisa Manke's house: 13627 Perthshire.

## Cowboy Thoughts

"Don't squat with your spurs on."  
Anonymous

"Always drink upstream from the herd."  
Will Rogers



# Looking Ahead...

## Upcoming Wilchester Events



### Mark Your Calendar!

<i>December 2011</i>			
<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Details</i>
10		Wilchester Fun Run	
16	11 am	Winter Parties	
16	Noon	Early Dismissal	
16-31		Winter Break	
<i>January 2012</i>			
<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Details</i>
1-3		Winter Break	
4		Classes Resume	
16		School Holiday	
17	7 pm	PTA Meeting/Budget Planning	Cafeteria
19		Reflections Recognition/Award Celebration	
24-26		Used Book Fair	Library

### Wilchester Elementary School

13618 St. Mary's Lane

Houston, TX 77079

713-251-7700

713-365-4912 Fax

