

## MAYORAL NEWSLETTER

May 9, 2012

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### **Election Day is this Saturday**

Election Day is this Saturday, May 12. The polls at the Wimberley Community Center will be open from 7 until 7. Places 2 and 4 on the council currently held by Mac McCullough and Steve Thurber and the Mayor's seat currently held by Bob Flocke are up for election.

### **Wimberley Public Notification System to be tested on May 16**

Wimberley's public notification system, which is to provide emergency notification to citizens and businesses will be tested on Wednesday, May 16. More information about the test will be provided in the city's newspapers and on the city website. At its May 3 meeting, the city council unanimously approved an operating policy for the system. The operating policy provides guidelines for the use of the city's Blackboard Connect mass notification system for the notification and alerting the public of issues of health, safety and welfare and of problems relating to major incidents and other events. Residents and business owners will be able to receive the emergency notifications both on their land line and cellular telephones.

### **Fourth Annual Wimberley Spring Walk scheduled this weekend, rain or shine**

The Fourth Annual Spring Walk sponsored by the Wimberley Mayor's Fitness Council and the New Braunfels Marsch und Wandergruppe will be held this Saturday and Sunday, May 13 and 14. The Spring Walk is a volksmarch, a non-competitive 5 or 10 kilometer walk through Wimberley, Blue Hole Regional Park and the city-county hike and bike trail along Winters Mill Parkway.

Volksmarch, or people's walk, is a sport that originated in Germany and has grown to thousands of events worldwide. Pets on leashes are welcome. The course opens at 8:30 on both days and all walkers must start their walks before noon. The route is mostly flat. The cost is \$3 for walkers and an additional \$3 for an International Volkspport Federation stamp upon completion. All walkers must register and obtain start cards for checkpoint verification. The event will be held regardless of weather conditions.

## **Outdoor Burning Ordinance Amended**

In a unanimous vote by the city council, Wimberley's outdoor burning ordinance was amended to clarify that fire pits, campfires and open flame grills used for cooking food are permitted unless prohibited by state law or by a city or county-wide burn ban imposed for a designated period. This change was recommended by the city's ordinance review task force.

## **Council Changes Ordinance on Discharge of Firearms in the City Limits**

The city's ordinance on the discharge of firearms within the city limits has been changed to allow the destruction of animals posing a safety risk to people, property, pets or livestock. As previously worded, the ordinance permitted the destruction of predatory animals. The council voted unanimously to approve this change. This change was recommended by the city's ordinance review task force.

## **New Stop Signs Coming for Paradise Valley**

The city council voted unanimously to approve a plan to install stop signs at two intersections in the Paradise Valley neighborhood south of the Blanco River.

The three-way intersection of Valley and Blanco Drives closest to RR 12 will get three stop signs requiring traffic approaching the intersection from all three directions to stop. At present, there is a stop sign for east bound traffic on Valley Drive from RR 12, there is a yield right of way sign for westbound traffic entering the intersection from Valley Drive, and there is no traffic control sign for traffic entering the intersection from Blanco Drive.

The intersection of Valley and Blanco Drives and Climbing Way east of the first intersection will get one stop sign requiring traffic approaching Valley Drive from Blanco Drive to stop. Currently, there is a yield right of way sign for traffic approaching the intersection on Climbing Way from the east. That yield sign will be removed.

The changes were proposed by city staff after a traffic study and review by the city's transportation advisory board showed that the majority of traffic at the intersections travels to and from the Paradise Hills neighborhood that feeds Climbing Way.