

Jacob's Well Fall Festival Set for September 17

Hays County Courthouse, San Marcos, TX – Hays County, which recently acquired Jacob's Well Natural Area, is joining the Friends of Jacob's Well and the Wimberley Valley Watershed Association to share the beauty of the area with the public. Experience music, fun and a reconnection with nature from 4 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, September 17, at this historic Trinity Aquifer spring.

Among the events planned are presentations by scuba divers who will explain the adventure of scuba diving and the scuba history of the Well. Learn about water conservation through games and activities, meet rescued bats from Bat Conservation International and learn about native plants and grasses. Low-flow water-saving devices will be raffled off and prizes will be given for the Nature Scavenger Hunt winners and best water-themed costumes. Swimming will be allowed if the spring's water level and flow permit.

At 5:30 p.m. representatives from the Hays County Commissioners Court, the Wimberley Valley Watershed Association, The Nature Conservancy and the River Systems Institute will welcome visitors, followed by a rain dance by students from Jacob's Well Elementary School. Dr. Mario Garza, chair of the Board of Directors of the Indigenous Cultures Institute of San Marcos, will give a prayer of thanks to the springs for its blessing on humankind.

Music will follow by Hal Ketchum, Mike Bond and the Sun-Dried Texans.

This is a "waste-free" event, so visitors are encouraged to bring their own cups and drinking bottles. Food, drinks and cups will be available for purchase.

Parking will be at the nearby VFW, with shuttles provided to and from the entrance to the park. Entrance fee is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 13-and-under and free for bike riders. Tickets are available at the door and at Brookshire Brothers in Wimberley. No dogs are allowed in this sensitive natural area. More information is available at www.jacobswellspring.org.