

News and information for the residents of Wells Branch. Vol. 25, Issue 3, May 2017

About that Easter Egg Hunt...

by Debby Thompson, WBNA President

I'd like to begin this article by bragging on our amazing WBNA board members and volunteers who gave of their time and energy to stuff and hide over 10,000 eggs as well as spend their Saturday morning helping out with the hunt itself, arts and crafts, or as a photographer for all of our Wells Branch children. Thank you!

Clay Bennett, Mr. EB • Lara Bennett, Event Coordinator • Owen Bennett • Emily Berver • James Berver • Sarah Berver • Emanuelle Bueno • Margarita Coyle • Travers Hough • Madonna Johnson • Andrew Jones • Dianne Koehler • Gus Kohn • Nathan Kohn • Sherrie Lindig • Donna Lyons • Donna Malone • Janet Maxey • Kaiden Palacio • Arlie Pfeifer • Tracy Simon • Marie Streusand • Margaret Sufke • Chuck Walters • Pamela Woodward • And special thanks to Ms. Vangie Sanger of Long Horn Cleaners & Alterations who carefully crafted the new vest for Mr. Bunny!

Even if you weren't in attendance, you may have heard about our Easter Egg Hunt. We had twice as many participants as anticipated, but we made the best of it. We usually have between 600 and 800 neighbors, but were blessed with closer to 1,200 this year, many of which weren't from our WB community. We owe this debt of gratitude to two online Austin promotional sites/pages who took it upon them selves to promote the event to their OVER 115,000 followers without thinking to mention it to the organizers or the possible impact on a small neighborhood event. Imagine our surprise. They have since apologized and promised policy changes.

So, what to do about next year? We'd love to hear your positive, constructive thoughts. If you took the time to write in with suggestions for next year, we are grateful. The WBNA always welcomes ideas, but most of all, volunteers. If you'd like to contact us, please do so at info@wbna.us. If you or your child suffered at the hands of some very rude parents, or, a stressed out volunteer, I apologize. I won't lie, there was some ugliness, but I believe with all my heart that it couldn't have come from any of our Wells Branch parents.

As a final note, I believe that children take their cues from their parents and how they deal with life's challenges. Maintaining a positive attitude goes a long way with how a child perceives a situation or event and the potential for happiness that event might invoke. One egg is just as big a deal to a two-year-old as twenty, if the parent sees it that way. Teach your children to find joy, even in less than perfect situations.

We hope to see you next year!

Silent Auction Items Needed

Each year, the WBNA hosts a Silent Auction during the FourthFest celebration on July 4th.

This is our BIG fundraiser for the year how we pay for the Easter Egg Hunt, National Night Out, our participation

at Halloween and Luminary Fest as well as the meetings, candidate forums and safety demonstrations we host throughout the year.

We are seeking donations of merchandise, gift cards/certificates, theme baskets, services.... to auction. In return, you receive exposure for your business at the auction, a special "Thank You" section in the September issue of the WBNA Neighborhood News and on our website and Facebook page with links to your site.

If you have items or services to donate OR if you would like to help solicit items, please email us at silentauction@wbna.us. Thank you in advance for helping to make (and keep) Wells Branch GREAT!

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Upcoming MUD Events

Memorial Day Casino Night Saturday, May 27 • 6-9pm WB Rec. Center • 3000 Shoreline Drive



Test your luck and beat the odds at the Memorial Day Casino Night event! No need to go to Vegas, the MUD is bringing the games to YOU! From 6-9pm, the MUD presents an adults-only evening of gaming for residents ages 21 and up ONLY; IDs will be checked at the door. Join your neighbors at 3000 Shoreline Drive as the MUD transforms the Rec. Center into a casino using professional tables and dealers. Stick around following the gaming for more fun and the opportunity to "spend" your winnings on a variety of prizes. Alcohol, sodas, and snacks are free. No alcohol allowed outside of the gym.



Splash Day!
Sunday, May 28 • Noon-4pm
KF Pool • 2106 Klattenhoff Drive

WB MUD is kicking off the summer with its 4th Annual Splash Day event! Learn about safety in and around water. There will be family-friendly pool and diving games and lots of great giveaways. Entry to the pool and the event is FREE, so splash on in for an exciting fun filled afternoon!



Teen Pool Parties!

June 23 | July 21 | August 11 • 9pm-Midnight KF Pool • 2106 Klattenhoff Drive \$3 with Rec. Tag | \$5 without Rec. Tag



Have a blast with your friends this summer at WB MUD's late night teen pool parties. They'll have music and pool games. Pizza and Drinks will be provided. Parties are open to anyone between the ages of 12 and 16.



Movies in the Park
June 17 • The Secret Life of Pets
July 15 • Monster Trucks
August 19 • Sing
KF Park • 2106 Klattenhoff Drive

Movies in the Park returns for three nights this summer. Bring your blankets and chairs and enjoy a fun-filled night with your family and neighbors. Admission is free. Parking is limited so residents are encouraged to walk or ride a bike. Concession sales begin at 8pm with the movie starting at dusk.



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Swim safely! Follow these steps to prevent kids from drowning

by Allison Strupeck, PIO/Community Outreach Coordinator, Prevention Division Pflugerville Fire Dept./Travis County ESD No. 2

Families across Wells Branch are excited to get wet and cool off this time of year. While swimming is one of the greatest things about summer in Central Texas, water also presents one of the most dangerous settings for children. Drowning is the #1 accidental killer of infants and toddlers, and for older kids it's the second leading cause.

If there is a pool or hot tub on your property, or your family visits any swim spots, please follow these important simple steps from Travis County ESD No. 2 to help keep children safe:

TEACH KIDS TO SWIM. Swimming is not only fun, it is literally a life-saving skill. Enroll your kids in swimming lessons when they are still young. There are many low-cost options available in the area.

WATCH THE WATER. If you can't swim or your kids can't swim, stay away from the water! Every time kids are around pools – or hot tubs, lakes, creeks, rivers, or oceans – at least one adult who is a strong swimmer should be designated as the official "Water Watcher." This person has a very important job. The Water Watcher is responsible for staying focused on the kids the whole time. Do not become distracted by texts, phone calls, earphones/music, reading, or napping. If you use babysitters, ensure they are strong swimmers, and insist that they closely supervise your children every moment.

FENCE ALL POOLS. Many of the nearly 300 children under 5 years old who drown each year in backyard pools in the U.S. could be SAVED if homeowners completely fenced in pools. It's also very important to install self-closing, self-latching devices on gates. Anyone who has cared for young children knows how fast they can move, so install pool and gate alarms to alert you when children go near the water.

STAY AWAY FROM DRAINS. Ensure all pools and spas – both on your property and any public or hotel pool you may visit – have compliant drain covers. By law, all public pools and spas must have drain grates/covers that meet safety standards to avoid fatal accidents. Teach kids to avoid drains. Powerful suction from a pool or spa drain can even trap an adult.

<u>LEARN CPR</u>. Travis County ESD No. 2 provides free, compression-only CPR training to groups age 13 and older. Call the Fire Department at (512) 281-2501 and ask for Community Outreach to learn more about Take 10 CPR. Remember the 3 C's: CHECK for signs of life. CALL 9-1-1 for help. COMPRESS the center of the chest hard and fast until help arrives.



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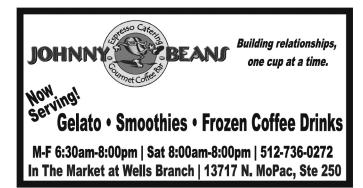
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As part of my committment to this community, a donation will be made to the WBCL or WB 501(c)3 group of your choice upon closing.





Volunteer Deputy Voter Registrar Training Saturday, June 10!

by Debby Thompson, WBNA President

Voter Registration - We need Volunteers. It only takes an hour of your time to get certified and you can be as involved (or uninvolved) as you'd like. Training enables you to be a resource to new neighbors, at community events, school, church, and social groups. PLEASE, help us to register ALL of our Wells Branch neighbors!

If you'd like to be a part of this effort (however big or small), we have a training session set for Saturday, June 10, 11am at the Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive. We need an approximate head count so that

Travis County can bring adequate supplies. Please reserve your spot at vote@wbna.us. Questions? Call 512-656-0654.

Helicopter Presence in WB by TCSO Capt. Craig Smith

In late January, the Travis County Sheriff's Office partnered with the Texas Department of Public Safety Aviation Unit. We now share staff that are capable of flying the aircraft. With this agreement we are able to utilize a helicopter twenty-four hours per day five days per week. On the other two days we will utilize the helicopter overnight. This is a great asset for our agency as we strive to keep the citizens of Travis County safe. You will see the helicopter more because we are using the resource to assist with patrol.

The Pfield Dedication May 23 • 6pm **Community Pep Rally, Dedication & Open House**

The Pfield is the place to be on Tuesday, May 23, when Pflugerville ISD officially unveils and dedicates its 10,000-seat district stadium and celebrates with the community.

The event will begin at 6pm when The Pfield's gates will open, followed by a ceremony at 6:30pm featuring combined PfISD bands, choirs, drill teams, cheerleaders and more. After the ceremony, attendees can take a self-guided tour of the stadium.

"This event is for the entire PfISD community," said Vernagene Mott, president of the PFISD Board of Trustees. "Not only will The Pfield be a showcase venue for PfISD athletics and performing arts, but it will also serve as a centerpiece of the community in so many ways."

Parking for the dedication event will be on the home (west) side of the stadium. Attendees will be greeted by a combined drum line representing all four PfISD high schools - Pflugerville. Connally, Hendrickson and the soon-to-open Weiss High School.

"Our guests will be treated to the combined talents of our students at this event," said acting Superintendent Gary Patterson. "Not only will our athletes be featured, but our bands, drill teams, color guards and choirs will be showcased.

It is a coming-together of our entire district community to celebrate the opening of a first-class facility."



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WB New Business Spotlight by Gus Kohn

In support of our Wells Branch business community, we like to share updates and changes to area establishments. Sales tax paid within Wells Branch from your purchases benefits both the Library and the Fire Department (ESD#2). The continuing success of the businesses in the district directly influence our property values. When we "Shop WB" we all benefit.

We've seen some new additions to Wells Branch recently as well as some changes to established businesses.

Chow Town Foods opened last September in the Bratton Square Shopping Center. WB neighbor and founder Stephanie Cardenas' her new catering company offers catering to businesses; corporate meetings, retreats, board meetings and other gatherings are her target. Stephanie says, "Imagine breakfast, lunch or dinner like your mother, grandmother or favorite aunt used to make, brought to your company lunch room." Your fond childhood memories or a new variation on a theme can be made to order. For all your company's catering needs please call Chow Town Foods at 512-373-8724.

City Hair & Nails in the Market at Wells Branch is under new ownership featuring hair styling and nail care including manicures and pedicures. They are open 7 days a week from 10am-7pm. For an appointment, call 512-388-2965; walk ins are welcome.

Fit for Life Solutions opened in the Wells Branch Center at 2013 Wells Branch Parkway, Suite 202, last February. Owner/Operator Miguel Lopez offers six classes per day Monday through Thursday. He assures me that this is not one of those intimidat-

ing gyms with a heavy sales pitch and contract. Miguel is a certified trainer through National Academy of Sports Medicine and believes working out should include having fun. His community driven program allows all who participate to start as a group of individuals and finish as a team. To sign up for a 2 week free trial, call Miguel at 855-348-4533 or visit their Facebook page at facebook.com/FFLSAustin/ and be sure to ask about the Six Week Fitness Challenge!

Johnny Beans Espresso Catering and Gourmet Coffee Bar, located in The Market at Wells Branch, 13717 Burnet Road is now carrying Austin Gelato Company gelato in assorted flavors.

Beginning Monday, May 22, Johnny Beans will be expanding their hours: Monday-Friday 6:30am-8:00pm, Saturday 8:00am-8:00pm and Sunday, enjoy your day! Coming in June, look for Johnny Beans' Drive Thru to open.

In addition to the coffee shop, Johnny Beans offers Espresso Catering Services 7 days a week. Owners John and Lauren Dixson believe in *Building relationships, one cup at a time!* 512-736-0272 | www.johnnybeans.com | @johnnybeansatx

Portobello Mediterranean and Brazilian Grill has been under new management since August 2016. They now offer Mediterranean food such as their specialty, *Shawarma*. Owner Jad tells me that they make all their food from scratch. Look for a lunch and dinner buffet opening soon. Visit them M-F & Sun 11-9, Sat 11-10, at 2113 Wells Branch Pkwy, #1000, between Express Cut-9 and Papa John's Pizza in the Piazza shopping center. Order online at portobellogrills.com/ or by phone at 512-436-8174.

Outside (Walk/Run) Safety Tips courtesy APD

We've had several concerns voiced on Wells Branch social media over the last month about personal safety. Here are some quick reminders that apply to everyone in just about every situation. With summer just around the corner, please be sure and remind the kiddos, too. This isn't intended to scare anyone, but as the weather gets warmer, we'll all be outside more!

remain vigilant • be aware of your surroundings at all times • know what's going on around you • know where you are • know where you are going • know your route • avoid running or walking at night if possible • walk in groups • let a friend or family member know your route and when you should check in • limit distractions • keep your head up, not buried in your phone if carrying your phone, keep it available so that if you need to call 911, you have it there immediately • if you're wearing headphones: keep the volume down low and leave one ear bud out so that you're able to hear everything that's going on around you • keep your identification with you • keep your hands free • have a plan • be prepared and be prepared to act if necessary • if you feel unsafe or see anything suspicious, go to a well lit, populated area, and call 911 • if you carry pepper spray, make sure you know HOW to use it BEFORE you need it • if someone does try and grab you, yell, scream, run away - do anything you need to do to get away from that person to an area where you can safely call 911

Tips for a Successful Property Tax Protest by Tammy DeWitt Le

Understand that you will only reduce your property taxes if vou lower your assessed value (the amount you are taxed on). A reduction in market value is meaningless.

Fill out the notice of protest form correctly and mail by May 31. Check boxes for "incorrect appraised (market) value" and "value unequal to compared to other properties" on step 3. Leave step 4 blank. Write "mail me evidence packet and field card" under step 5 and check yes box to receive it.

Come armed with at least 3 arguments to lower your value as you never know which may stick. You can always argue both equity (nearby homes like yours that have not sold) and solds (lower priced recently sold homes like yours). Bringing pictures of poor condition and/or any negative aspects of your location (busy street, back to something unpleasant, poor lot drainage, etc) is another option.

Attend the informal hearing, which is less pressure and a one on one situation. The formal hearing is under oath, recorded and 3-4 people vs. you. Strive to get resolution during informal hearing because any offers made there are off the table if you go to the formal hearing.

E-file is better than doing nothing, however it counts as your informal hearing. If you don't get a reduction or are not happy with the amount, your only recourse is the formal hearing. I recommend a face to face informal hearing.

Be nice and friendly to the employee. Build some rapport asking how their day is going or about pictures on their desk. Smile!

Realize that protesting is a long-term process and every year you get a different employee. Don't give up if you are not successful one year. Keep trying and gauge your efficacy over a period of several years.

As a community, we need to be more aware of when the taxing entities set property tax rates in September/October of each year. Each of the entities are required to hold public hearings and will post the dates in advance. Challenging annual rate increases is the key to getting meaningful longterm property tax relief.

Visit www.homesalesaustintexas.com for more detailed property tax tips in my blogs or visit Wells Branch Real Estate on Facebook. View Property Tax 101 video with Travis County Tax Assessor Bruce Elfant at: https://www.facebook. com/205101652856649/videos/1538561426177325/ (WBNA Facebook under 'Videos').

Wells Branch Land Value Increase

In Wells Branch we had a land value increase this year from \$40,000 to \$75,000. I met with Michael Kasper, the TCAD Director of Residential Appraisal to discuss this issue. When you request the evidence packet, you will automatically receive the data showing how they determined this lot increase. They took 122 sales in Wells Branch in 2016 and determined the replacement cost of each home and the remaining value was the land. The median land value they calculated was \$118,000 but they only raised us to \$75,000.

Is there anything you can do? If you have a major issue with rain collecting on your lot and drainage problems, take pictures documenting that information. If you back to an apartment, utility tower, railroad or other nuisance, bring up that issue. Carefully review the data you receive on how they calculated land values to see if you can poke any holes in it.

Lot sizes in Wells Branch range from around 0.10 to 0.40 acres. Homes with smaller lots can attempt to protest being valued the same as a larger lot, however Michael said an across the board land value adjustment is their standard practice for a homogenous neighborhood like Wells Branch where lots are all very similar. Unless the lots are waterfront, have views or are otherwise extremely valuable, it's unlikely they will do a lot by lot value in a neighborhood.

If you've been following the Wells Branch real estate market then you know that home prices have been increasing over the last several years. The fact is that our home and land values are going up. Some good news is that they don't do these adjustments every year and they did not increase the land as high as their calculations showed. I will continue to stay in touch with my contacts at the appraisal district and update everyone on any new information I learn.

Help Older Parents Avoid Financial "Scams" by Nicole Viator, Edward Jones Financial Advisor

One out of every five Americans over the age of 65 has been victimized by a financial scheme, according to the Investor Protection Trust. If you have elderly parents, how can you help them avoid being "scammed"?

For starters, observe their behavior. Be aware if their actions or statements indicate that they might be vulnerable to financial fraud.

Next, urge them to send any suspicious emails straight to their "spam" basket. Remind them that any offer that sounds too good to be true won't be good — or true.

Also, encourage them to further their financial education. Many agencies provide programs designed specifically for seniors.

Finally, if they don't already work with a financial advisor, recommend a trusted one to them. The more guidance they get from a qualified professional, the less likely it is that they'll fall victim to scam artists.

Nicole Viator, Wells Branch Resident 512-345-4989 | nicole.viator@edwardjones.com | Member SIPC

WB Armada - Swim Season is HERE!

by Peter Mielcarek, President, WBA

The Wells Branch Armada (WBA) swim team kicked off its 28th season with afternoon practices starting May 1st. We will switch to morning practices when the



MUD switches to its summer pool schedule on June 2nd, once school is out for the year.

Our home meets this year are on May 27, June 3, June 17, and July 1. Many of you with kids on the team will already be there, but if you're not, feel free to come by in the mornings and cheer them on, and while you're there stop by and have some of the wonderful food provided by our concessions team. WBA's concessions team are all volunteers, and have gained a reputation over the past few years as providing the best value - quality food at a low price - in the league. All concessions proceeds benefit the WBA swim team.

Finally, whether you have kids or your kids swim, the WBA is a great way to get the word out about your business. This year we have over 200 swimmers registered from 130 families from Wells Branch and surrounding neighborhoods. If you're interested in sponsoring the team for this or next year, or in donating in some other way, please access our website, https://wellsbranch.swimtopia.com/, and talk to Steven Wilson (links to email addresses provided on the website) about a sponsorship. WBA is a 501(c)(3) organization.

Thank you for your continued support of the WBA. We are looking forward to another amazing season!



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European Dance Guild

The European Dance Guild meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, from 6 to 8pm in Room 104 of the Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive. The meeting is free and open to the public. No previous experience is required. Every dance is taught before it is danced to music. If you can walk, you can do this type of dance. If you have any questions, please contact Daniel White at 512-413-0097.

Aquafit Classes by Katie Hutcheson

WB MUD offers Aqua-fit classes year-round each Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1-2pm at Willow Bend Pool. This class requires the MUD Multi-class card; for more information visit wellsbranchmud.com. Please wear swim attire, bring a water bottle and towel. If it is raining or below 55° we will not meet. Contact Katie Hutcheson at 512-516-2621 or khutcheson@wellsbranchmud.com with questions.

WB Recommended Home Repair Vendor List by Tammy DeWitt Le

For your convenience, I have collected and centralized recommended vendor names from neighbors here in Wells Branch. Most vendors work all over Austin and surrounding suburbs. No vendor will ever be added to this page in exchange for financial compensation and a vendor cannot be added unless they receive a recommendation. It is always a good idea to check references and review online review sites before hiring any vendor.

If you are a Wells Branch resident who has received exceptional service from a home repair or improvement vendor or if you are a vendor on the list who needs to update or correct information, please email tammy@homesalesaustintexas.com.

http://www.homesalesaustintexas.com/buying/home-repair-vendor-list/

Looking for a Wells Branch Small Business? by Joy Smith & Dianne Koehler

Check out the list on the Wells Branch Garage Sale Facebook page under files => Wells Branch Small Business Listing.

Neighbors, please add yourself to this document under the appropriate listing for your business. If your direct sales company is not listed yet, just copy and paste to add it. Please follow the general format (especially, do not type in all caps). If there is already someone with your company, insert your information **alphabetically** and make sure you list contact information.

Mr. PC's Computer Corner by Dave DeVore

This month, we'll look at a common security threat, email attachments. As usual, what started out as a good thing, the ability to send files to your friends, has been corrupted by criminals seeking to control computers for identity theft and even worse purposes.

Hacked email accounts are a breeding ground for the spread of a lot of the computer infections we see every day in my consulting practice. Yahoo mail, which has provided email services for over 15 years for the many types of ATT accounts, has been one of the major targets of the hackers. There have been many breeches and last year ATT began the process of moving their email accounts being managed by Yahoo over to another company, Synacor. I am particularly cynical of any unusual email that I get that has a yahoo.com, att.net, sbc-global.net or other similar email address because of this history. It has become so bad that most of the Fortune 100 companies now have a policy of not allowing their people to open attachments or links in emails without first calling the person who sent the email to verify that it is legitimate.

How do you know if your email or one of your friend's accounts has been compromised? You might get a strange email from them that only has a link in it, or a short message saying to open an attachment that has a suspicious file extension such as .SCR, .PHP, .EXE or a .ZIP file. Opening any of these could cause a malicious program to infect your computer. Many times, when email accounts are hacked, the goal is to commandeer the victim's address book, so that more infected messages can be sent out and the reach of the bad guys is thus extended. If you get such a message from a "friend" or you find out your email is doing this, follow these steps:

- 1. Report it to the email provider
- 2. Change the password for the account immediately
- 3. Run a virus and/or a malware scan on the computer in question
- 4. Alert your correspondents about the hack

It can take a few days for the problem to subside, since the fake emails are often sent from outside of your computer using your stolen address book entries while "spoofing" your email address.

Questions? Contact Dave at dave@mrpcaustin.com mrpcaustin.com | 512-323-5343.

WB Walking Club

Get out and take advantage of this beautiful weather we're having! WB Walking Club meets in front of KF Pool at 7am on Tuesdays & Thursdays and utilizes the Wells Branch MUD trails. Temps are mild in the morning and the trails are beautiful; summertime is a perfect time to start walking! For more info, contact Katie Hutcheson at khutcheson@wellsbranchmud.com.

Couch to 5K Running! by Jill Douglass

The Wells Branch Running Club is sponsoring a Couch to 5K running program this summer. The program aims to help non-runners (couch potatoes!) achieve running a 5K in 9 weeks. Aspiring runners will meet at the gazebo at Katherine Fleischer Park at 6am Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays beginning June 5th. The program is free. We will be using the "C25K" phone app. Questions? Contact Jill Douglass (jdzurenko@gmail.com).

WB Running Club by Russell Jones

The WB Running Club is a completely free and fun group of community members who meet every Tuesday and Thursday from 5:45-6:45am at the Gazebo in Katherine Fleischer Park. Workouts are tailored to meet the needs of every individual with members running at all different paces. Come join the fun! For more info go to www. wbrunclub.com or call, text, or e-mail Russell@wbrunclub.com, (512) 825-2369.

Summer Birding in WB by Wanda Holcombe

People from all over the Austin area are coming to Wells Branch for birding to see the amazing birds that live here year round and have migrated here for the summer.

Hosted Bird Walks by Sharon Richardson will continue on the 2nd Monday of each month during the Summer at 8am at the Mills Pond Gazebo: June 12, July 10, August 14. There will be NO Hosted Bird Walks on Saturdays this summer, but they will resume in September.

Migration is in full swing, according to the Travis Audubon Society (http://travisaudubon.org). This is also a time of nesting and a delightful time to watch adult birds with young in tow as they practice landings and take offs. All young birds are very vulnerable at this stage when they can't fly well and

are not wise to the ways of cats and other hazards. You can help by keeping cats indoors and by leaving low branches that provide perches for weak flyers. For more information and birding events in the Austin Area this summer, Travis Audubon is a great website to visit.



Red-bellied Woodpecker from May Birding Walk courtesy of Dave DeVore

Happy Birding...

Wanda Holcombe | wandah70@gmail.com Sharon Richardson | sharonorichardson@gmail.com Heather Johnson | frioswimmer@gmail.com Paul Wadehra | paul.wadehra@gmail.com Karen Hagemann | khallhagemann@hotmail.com

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SUMMER READING

Our Summer Reading Challenge runs June 1 through July 31!
Register and log your reading at wblibrary.readsquared.com to participate and win fun prizes. Build a better world at the library!



Summer Reading Kickoff with Dinosaur George

Saturday, June 3 at 10 and 11 a.m. Register online at wblibrary.eventbrite.com.

UPCOMING CLOSURES

Monday, May 29

Library closed for Memorial Day

Tuesday, July 4

Library closed for Independence Day

To see everything happening at the Library this summer, check out our event calendar at **WWW.WBLIBRARY.ORG**

LIBRARY EVENTS

Coding Club for Teens and Adults

Every Saturday in June and July at 2 p.m. Learn coding at your own pace at this self-guided program. Laptops available first-come, first-served.

DIY Wednesdays

Every Wednesday in June and July at 6 p.m. Learn and practice a new skill at the library each week! Visit wblibrary.eventbrite.com to register for classes, or drop in for an open workshop! (Ages 16+.)

Donuts with Dads: Joe McDermott Concert

Saturday, June 17 at 10 a.m.

Enjoy a special concert and morning refreshments for kids and dads! Register at wblibrary.eventbrite.com.

Critterman

Tuesday, June 20 at 6 p.m.

Join us for an animal education show for ages 4+! Register online at wblibrary.eventbrite.com.

KIDS & TEENS

LEGO Lab (Ages 5+)

Mondays from 4 to 5 p.m. LEGO robotics and free play. No registration.

Storytime & Craft

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. & Saturdays at 11 a.m. All ages. Tickets available 30 minutes before.

Circle Time (Ages 0-3)

Wednesdays from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Learn through song and play in a first classroom experience.

Arts and Crafts

Wednesdays at 6 p.m. (Tickets available at 5:30 p.m.) Make a new craft each week!

Thursday Storytimes

Sign Language: first and third Thursdays at 11 a.m. La Hora del Cuento: second and fourth Thursdays at 11 a.m.

Little Helpers (Ages 4-8)

Fridays at 2 p.m.

Learn how to become a community helper!

Teen Library Council Meetings (Ages 10+)

Second Saturday of each month at 2 p.m.

Help plan teen library programs!

ADULTS

Spanish Conversation Hour

First Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m.
Practice your speaking and listening skills with others.

Wells Branch Writers' Guild

First Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Visit the library's website to join the online forum!

Morning Yoga

First and third Thursdays of each month at 10:30 a.m. Please bring your own yoga mat.

English Conversation Group

First and third Saturdays of each month at 10:30 a.m. All skill levels welcome.

Computer and Career Workshops

Explore topics like Microsoft Word and Excel, résumé help, and more. See all class offerings and register online at wblibrary.eventbrite.com.

MONTHLY BOOK CLUBS

- Steamy Reads: first Wednesday at 6 p.m.
- Wine, Women, & Words: first Thursday at 7 p.m.
- Clueless Mysteries: third Sunday at 3 p.m.

2017 Summer Reading Program

Build a Better World by Kristin Johnson, Children's Librarian

Readers of all ages will explore architecture, robotics, the environment, and more as the Wells Branch Community Library presents "Build a Better World" for the 2017 Summer Reading Program. The 2017 Summer Reading Program is open to kids, teens, and adults. There will be something for everyone, including music concerts, computer and coding classes, science presentations, DIY classes, movie nights, book clubs, storytimes, crafts, robots and more!

Go digital this summer by joining our ReadSquared Online Summer Reading Program! Readers can track their reading progress on ReadSquared to unlock games, earn digital badges, and earn prizes and raffle prize entries. Registration for the Summer Reading Program begins on June 1st, and runs through July 31st at http://wblibrary.readsquared.com. For more information, visit www.wblibrary.org.

Do-It-Yourself (DIY) Club by Daniel White

The DIY Club meets on the first Sunday of each month, unless otherwise noted, from 6-8pm in room #103 of the Rec. Center on Shoreline. The meetings are open to anyone and are free. Topics are announced on the WB Google Group and WBNA.us prior to the meetings. Presentations are livestreamed by the WBNA and are available for viewing on their Facebook page under 'Videos' if you'd like to catch up. We hope you'll join us!

Wells Branch Garden Guild by Dianne Koehler

We are a friendly group who meets once a month to discuss gardening! We normally meet every third Saturday of the month at 10:30am for a plant/seed swap and then at 11:00am for the presentation at the Wells Branch Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive. All are welcome!

May 20 is the annual Wells Branch Garden Tour where we'll draw inspiration from the wonderful gardens hiding behind our neighbors' fences. Thanks go out to our coordinator, Susan Gillespie. Watch for photos on the WBNA Facebook page.

June 10, we will meet on the second Saturday for a tomato tasting. Come see what WB gardens can produce and talk to the folks that grow these tasty tomatoes. Last summer we had 8-9 varieties and other veggies as well as a couple of home made cheeses. It's always a FUN EVENT!

Not sure what to do with the kids this summer?



Wells Branch MUD offers a wide variety of Summer Camps. Visit their website at wellsbranchmud.com/parks-a-recreation/youth-programs to learn more about: Stuff-2-Do Summer Day Camp, Volleyball Clinics, Basketball Clinics, Art Mini-Camps and Swim Lessons. Don't wait! Registration fills fast!





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Clip 'n Save Pool Hours

Katherine Fleischer (KF) Pool 2106 Klattenhoff • 512-251-9932					
May 1 - May 31*					
Open Swim	Swim M-F 3-9pm				
	S-S	1-9pm			
Lap Swim	M-F	3-4pm			
	M-F	7:30-9:30pm			

*KF Pool will be open from 1-9pm on Monday, May 29

*Texas Gold uses four lanes from 4:00-7:30pm M-F

June 1- August 20*			
Open Swim M-Th, Sa 10am-9pn			
	F	4-9pm	
	Su	1-9pm	

*No Lap Lanes will be available at KF Pool, please use the Willow Bend Pool *KF Pool will close at 8:30pm on 6/23, 7/21, and 8/11

Willow Bend Pool 2801 Sauls • 512-310-1833			
May 1 - June 1*			
Open/Lap	S-S	1-9pm	
Lap Swim	M-F	5:30-7:00am	
	M-F	12-2pm*	

*Closed after 2pm due to Armada swim team practice *WB Pool will be open for open/lap swim from 2-9pm on Monday, May 29

June 2 - August 20*			
Open/Lap	M-F	2-9pm	
	S-S	2-9pm	
Lap Swim	M-F	5:30-7:00am	
	M-F	12-2pm	

*WB Pool will be close at 5pm on Tuesday, June 13 (Rain Date: June 20)

*WB Pool may open late on these dates due to Armada home swim meets: 5/20, 5/27, 6/3, 6/17, 7/1

Please note: These are general guidelines. Hours are subject to change. Visit: wellsbranchmud.com for current information and specific exceptions.

If you have any questions about pool operations,
please feel free to contact the Aquatics Supervisor
Katie Hutcheson at 512-251-9814 x111 or
khutcheson@wellsbranchmud.com.



Summer Swim Lessons in WB

The Wells Branch MUD strives to offer the very best in swimming instruction. We hope your children will progress in their water skills and self-confidence during their time with us.

Our Learn to Swim Program is designed for participants to learn about themselves as well as learning to swim. Each class builds on the skills learned in the previous level. Classes emphasize personal safety, endurance, lifesaving, and development of swimming strokes. We offer group lessons or private lessons.

Group lessons start June 5th and are two week sessions (Monday – Thursday). The cost is \$40 for in-district or \$55 for out-of-district. Private lessons are \$20 for a thirty minute lesson. For more information, visit wellsbranchmud.com, email Katie Hutcheson at khutcheson@wellsbranchmud.com, or call Katie at 512-251-9814, ext. 111.

KWBB Volunteer Day

Sunday, June 4 • 2-4pm Meet at WB MUD Office • 14611 Wells Port

Our mission is to encourage residents to take responsibility for the improvement of the community's environment voluntarily and focus on litter prevention, beautification and waste reduction. It's our opportunity to make Wells Branch the cleanest, most beautiful community in Texas!

We meet the first Sunday of each month, usually from 2-4pm, and take on a different project each time.

Our June 4 Keep Wells Branch Beautiful venture will be pulling invasive plants out of the creek areas from 2-4pm. We will meet at the MUD Main Office, 14611 Wells Port and go from there. Please wear long sleeves and closed toed shoes.

For further information, please email Katie at khutcheson@wells-branchmud.com.



Big Things Are Happening for Wells Branch Soccer by Leisha Richardson, Secretary, Wells Branch Soccer Association

It's been almost picture perfect weather as of late, making it another amazing spring soccer season here in Wells Branch. And what a season it's been! The Club had more than 370 WBSA players from ages U4-U17; strong recreational growth with 33 new and returning teams; a select and academy program that grew from one team to 8 teams; 30+ WBSA United Select players also representing their middle school and high school teams; strong tournament showing with wins and advancements, and more than 325 games played this season. A big thanks to our volunteer coaches and families for helping us make it all happen! The spring 2017 season will go down in the record books as a tremendous success and the beginning of some exciting changes for north Austin's most family-friendly soccer club.

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One of the new developments, is the gorgeous new Wells Branch Soccer Complex. WBSA members have been anxiously awaiting the opportunity to play on these beautiful new pitches that are shaping up nicely thanks to the Wells Branch MUD and staff! Returning players and those joining WBSA for the first time will be playing at the new complex this fall. The Wells Branch MUD will be announcing a grand opening event in the coming weeks for those that want a sneak peak of the completed complex.

WBSA will host our second annual open tryouts for select and academy teams in the coming weeks. Tryouts are open to all ages looking for acade-

my or select playing opportunities. Be sure to register for these upcoming sessions. And speaking of signing up for soccer tryouts, registration for the fall 2017 is already open! A walk-up registration will also be held at the new complex this summer. Don't miss the opportunity to get signed up by the early bird deadline, July 30.

As WBSA continues to grow, the board has elected to make some new additions to better support the recreational program as well as grow the select program for players seeking further development and advanced play opportunities. This spring Steve Wilson joined the board stepping into the role as the new WBSA President. A long time WBSA coach, Steve is a strong addition to the board bringing coaching and playing experience as well as a deep background in supporting WBSA community organizations as a board member for the WBAIA PTO and Wells Branch Armada. This new appointment allowed for Nick Marquez, former WBSA president, to step into an exciting new role for the organization as Executive Director of Coaching. Nick's dedication to WBSA and the development of youth soccer in North Austin has been unwavering and in his new role he'll be helping to further shape WBSA coaching and player programs that focus on the "Total Player Development" philosophy.

Even though another fun-filled soccer season in Wells Branch is wrapping up, that doesn't mean the kids have to hang up their cleats until fall. WBSA will host four camps this summer led by our new Executive Director of Coaching, Nick Marquez. Bundled pricing is available for attending multiple camps as well as discounts for WBSA members registered for the fall 2017 season. Visit http://wellsbranchsoccer.weebly.com/summer-camps.html to learn more.

Be sure to follow us on Facebook and visit www.wellsbranchsoccer.com for more news and updates on WBSA soccer! We look forward to seeing everyone on the pitch this summer and in the fall!

WBSA Community Rallies to Support Coach Freddie

This spring the Club received some unfortunate news that one of our beloved volunteer coaches, Freddie Jones, was diagnosed with aggressive Renal Cell Carcinoma. Thanks to the entire Wells Branch community rallying behind Freddie and his family, several events were immediately held to raise money for the Jones family. Among those donations, the WBSA board donated all proceeds from the Pioneer Fest concessions and hosted a spaghetti dinner fundraiser. Both events helped raise more than \$1,800 to help the Jones family. If you missed any of the community events and would still like to make a donation, you can do so by visiting https://www.gofundme.com/rvjk2v-help-the-jones-family. We are all pulling for you, Freddie!





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Dear Neighbors,

I currently live in Wells Branch (I love it!) and have been working with buyers who have been unable to find a home in this area.

In March, the median price for single-family homes in the Austin-Round Rock area **increased 5.6%** to \$295,767, and housing had **2.4 months** of inventory.

Typically, a market that favors sellers has less than a 6 months supply, while more than a 6 months supply indicates an excess of homes for sale, thus favoring buyers.

"You don't happen to know of anyone that might be interested in selling a home, do you?"

Please contact me at 512.844.0612 to discuss.

Thanks!

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Pat Dixson

On my cell 512-844-0612

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Learn Coding at the Library!

Brittany Hecker, Adult Program & Service Librarian

Are you interested in learning programming skills, but don't know where to start? Join us at Wells Branch Community Library for Coding Club, a collaborative learning group of adults and teens from all backgrounds who want to advance their technology skills together. We'll be using free online courses and tutorials available through freecodecamp.com and khanacademy.org. These sites provide self-guided learning modules on topics ranging from website creation to languages such as Python and Java, without the need for any specialized software. Facilitators will be available to help you access tutorials of your choice and introduce you to others who are learning similar topics.

The group will meet every Saturday in June & July from 2:00-3:30pm. No programming experience is necessary – we'll be learning together! Please bring your own laptop if possible. A limited number of library laptops will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. For more details, email brittany@ wblibrary.org or call the library at 512-989-3188.

Take the Library with You This Summer!

by Jeremy Selvidge, Technology & Outreach Librarian

Wherever your summer travel plans take you, you're never far from the library! With digital services like OverDrive, hoopla digital, and Flipster, the Wells Branch Community Library makes it easy to enjoy e-books, music, movies, and magazines at home or on the go.

Our **OverDrive** digital library gives you access to thousands of the most popular e-books and digital audiobooks. Read or listen on your computer or e-reader, or download the OverDrive mobile app to your phone or tablet to bring your books with you.

Looking for more than books? Download comics, music, and movies with **hoopla digital**! Enjoy up to five checkouts each month, free with your library card. Choose from a selection of half a million movies and TV shows, albums, books and comics to enjoy on your computer, phone, or tablet.

Last but not least, **Flipster** brings your favorite magazines to you for free. Browse current and past issues of more than 30 popular magazines, including *The New Yorker*, *Car & Driver*, *Vogue*, and *Rolling Stone*. Read online or download titles to your tablet or phone to take them on the go!

To get started with these and all of our other great online services, visit the library's website (www.wblibrary.org) and log into your account. Want to learn more? Attend a "Getting Started with E-Books" workshop on June 13 or July 11, or call the library at 512-989-3188.

Support your community RENEW or JOIN WBNA TODAY!
See page 20



Nicole A Viator Financial Advisor 11211 Taylor Draper Suite 103 Austin, TX 78759 512-345-4989

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Cub Scout Pack 728 News by Shannon Best

It's been a GREAT Scout year for WB Pack 728. Two campouts, fishing, Frisbee golf, s'mores, It's My Park Day, Report to State, Brown Santa and of course selling popcorn. Pack 728 would like to say thank you to Alexander Reese for



being our Tiger Den Chief. Your hard work is appreciated by all! To join WB Pack 728, email wbpack728@gmail.com.

BSA Troop 1409 News

by Daniel White, Asst. Scoutmaster

The Troop attended the District Camporee on April 7 & 8 where they received an award for lashings. Order of the Arrow members attended the Spring Assembly the first weekend in May where OA youth candidates Logan O'Neil and Eron Jewett and adult candidates Joe O'Neil and Jill Douglass were inducted into the Order. The Troop, including two new Scouts, will be attending summer camp at Lost Pines Scout Reservation. In preparation for camp, the Troop will be doing their swim test and pizza party on May 21.

Interested in Scouting? We always welcome new youth between the ages of 11 to 18! Contact scoutmaster@ troop1409.com for more information or visit our website at http://www.troop1409.com/.

BSA Venture Crew 1409 by Jill Douglass, Advisor

The spring break trip to Gulf Wars in Mississippi was a smashing success. Despite the unseasonably cold weather, the crew immersed themselves in the idealized lifestyle of the middle ages. They were up early taking classes (metalworking, herb lore, engineering) and participating in battle support, archery, and cooking, and then they stayed up late dancing. The trip was a nice diversion for this curious crew. We have now switched directions and have two high adventure trips coming up. First is a 3 day - 2 night canoe trip on the Colorado River over Memorial Day weekend. Next, in July, we have our highly anticipated hike of the Four Pass Loop in the Snowmass Wilderness near Aspen, Colorado. Leave No Trace and high altitude hiking skills are on the agenda for preparation for this hike.

Venturing is a youth development program of the Boy Scouts of America for young men and women who are 14-20 years of age. Contact Jill Douglass (512-293-9022 / jdouglass@crew1409.com) for questions about the Crew.

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Cub Scout Pack 140 by Tonya Riley

Cub Scout Pack 140 is wrapping up an exciting year. We had a fun day at the ballpark at Scout Day with the UT Baseball team. Christopher Riley blew away the competition and was named champion of



our Raingutter Regatta. Join Scouting Nights were recently held at Northwest Elementary and Parmer Lane Elementary schools and we were thrilled to have more families join the Pack. It's not too late to join! We welcome any boy in 1st through 5th grades. Adult volunteers are also needed to help keep the Pack running. Visit Pack140.org, email info@pack140.org, or call 512-627-9741 for more information.

Art Enrichment Mini-Camps by Dianne Koehler

Want to bring out the creative side of your child this summer right here in Wells Branch? Join us for the art mini-camp program sponsored by the Wells Branch MUD. We pack lots of projects into each week of three half-day sessions: painting, drawing, 3-D art, fabric painting, mosaics, clay sculpture, murals, and art discussions. Each week has its own theme. Enroll for one or several. Camp is \$45 per 3-day session. Register on-site at the Rec. Center, call 512-251-9814, or visit http://www.wellsbranchmud.com/parks-a-recreation/youth-programs/142-art-camp.

Classes will be offered for two age groups:

Beginning Artists Sessions (age 4 1/2 going into Kindergarten-7) Hours: 9-11:30am, Tu-W-Th

The beginning artists will break several times during the morning for a story and snack or drink so send a bag with your kids to keep them going. We may view a video or two as well.

Junior Artist Sessions (age 7 1/2 or completed 1st gradeage 12) Hours: 12:30-4:00pm Tu-W-Th

Each day begins with a review of art prints, library books, guest artists, and use of the internet to tour museum collections and types of art not available to us locally. Students will decide what they like and don't like, discuss different artists and art topics and how artists created their art. We will then create our projects.

For locations, themes, registration information and more, email dianne.koehler51@gmail.com or visit: https://sites.google.com/site/woodenitbewonderful/dikoehler-home/artmini-camps-2017

FOL News by Tracy Simon, President, Friends of Wells Branch Comm. Library (FOL)

Programs

Our Financial Planning series concludes with the final two sessions on May 23 and June 8 (details in next column). The FOL would like to thank Margaret McGhee-Sufke for organizing this series for the neighborhood.

FOL Annual Garage Sale

Mark your FOL calendar for the 6th Annual FOL Community Garage Sale on Saturday, September 23rd from 7:30 to Noon. The Library will be closed until 1pm. Vendor space reservations will be available in August. Start saving your garage sale items to sell!

Please see wbfriends.org or www.facebook.com/WBFOL for more information.

FOL 2018 Calendar Contest Underway!

Calling all photographers: amateur to professional, the Friends of the Wells Branch Library is holding its second annual contest in search of 16 photos to grace the 2018 Wells Branch calendar. **Your picture could be a WINNER!**

Photos of Idyllic views, people, critters, activities and events, whatever you think best applies to the theme "Best of Wells Branch" will be included in our 15 month calendar for 2018.

See the rules and submission details at wbfriends.org and facebook.com/WBFOL/; contest ends June 15, 2017.

ENTER YOUR PHOTOS NOW!



Silver Branchers Update by Darlene Bauhs

The Silver Branchers will continue hosting board games and socializing on Thursdays at 1pm. We meet at the Recreation Center on Shoreline Drive. The last Thursday of the each month we meet at Affinity on Owen Tech for a movie at 1pm. Affinity has graciously provided us with the use of their projector room on those days.

Last year we enjoyed six day trips during the fall and winter season. These trips are open to the public and are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month leaving at 9am. In September we will resume day trips if the MUD board approves. We await their decision.

For more information, you are invited to follow our Facebbook page at: www.facebook.com/silverbranchers/.

FOL Adult Education Program: Financial Foundational Series by Margaret McGhee-Sufke

Join us for the final two FOL adult educational programs in the Financial Foundations series. The main target phrase that has emerged from this educational series is: "Failing to plan now for the future, leads to a plan that fails later when you need it the most."

Session 4 - Basic Investment Strategies for Long Term Financial Goals

Tuesday, May 23 • 6:30pm

WB Community Center • 2106 Klattenhoff Drive

Session 5 - Family Law & Estate Planning Thursday, June 8 • 6:30pm

WB Community Center • 2106 Klattenhoff Drive

As highlighted in the earlier sessions. The main focus of this program is to educate all age groups on the foundations of personal finance and how to maximize your resources. Nothing will be sold. This is a **FREE** workshop, offered to the entire Wells Branch community. Light refreshments will be provided.

The fourth session is being led by Ms. Nicole Viator, a highly respected local area Edward-Jones financial planner and a long-time member of the Wells Branch community. Nicole will lead an educational session on how to incorporate investments as part of your overall financial plan.

- Learn how to develop and manage basic financial strategies to achieve longer term monetary goals
- Build a saving strategy to help plan and pay for college
- Contrast and compare Annuity based investments vs. Mutual Funds
- Discover investment tools that will help you achieve a solid income base as your earning power winds down
- Learn how to leverage your financial resources to help you pay for long term expenses, such as health care, relocation, job loss, etc.

Our final session in the series is on Family Law and Estate planning with Mr. Brad Wiewel, Esq. from The Wiewel Law Firm. For more information, please visit texastrustlaw.com.

Even If you missed the first few sessions, you can always catch up. Check out these the resources:

- Copies of the previous seminar materials will be available at the next two sessions and will be available for download on the following WB websites: wbna.us and wbfriends.org including a contact matrix for all the presenters and their websites
- The WB Community Library has some excellent databases and research tools available for free
- A reading list will be available at the end of series
- A "Reader's Digest" version of the entire series to close the program will be posted when completed

Start planning now to attend the final sessions and develop your plan for financial success.

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Little Free Libraries in WB - Treasures Just Waiting to be Discovered

Visit a Little Free Library Today!

Do you want adventure, romance, or perhaps a hearty belly laugh? Well, you're in luck and you don't even have to leave the neighborhood!

There are several Little Free Libraries (LFLs) all over Wells Branch. Most were built and installed as an Eagle Scout project, but the homeowners assumed responsibility for maintaining them once installed.

A Little Free Library is exactly that — it's little, it's free, and it's a library. It's different from regular libraries because there is never a fine for returning a book late (or not at all). You can add books to any LFL. You can return a book to a different LFL. Just remember that kids borrow books, too, so

screen your donations, please. Half Price Books will gladly take your racy stuff.

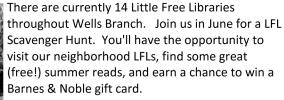
LFLs are all around the world! There is a plethora of information at littlefreelibrary.org. You can search for LFLs, buy a kit to make your own and register your LFL once it's installed (registration is optional).

You may find an updated map to WB LFLs at wbna.us/community/library-boxes/ with the location of each box in the Wells Branch neighborhood. Not all are registered on the Little Free Library website, so this is the most complete "list" available. Challenge yourself to visit each one!

So, go out for a walk, jog, stroll, or drive. Romance, adventure, and laughter are right around the corner!

*LFLs are not associated with the Wells Branch Community Library so please do not put books that belong to WBCL in a LFL box.

Welcome to the LFL Summer Scavenger Hunt!



WHO: Wells Branch neighbors. Adults and kids are encouraged to join the fun...there are books for all interests and reading levels!

WHEN: June 1-30, 2017

WHERE: All 14 Little Free Libraries in Wells Branch. A map is at the bottom of the WBNA Little Free Libraries page at http://wbna.us/

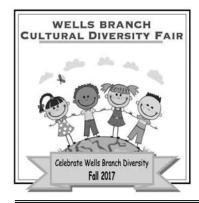
community/library-boxes/. (See **HOW** below for an important note.)

WHY: It's summertime! Pick up some books for poolside reading, a long trip, or your child's summer reading program.

HOW: Very important: Participants must start the hunt at the **2207 Klattenhoff Drive LFL.** There you will find entry cards and instructions. Visit 4 more LFLs during June to complete your entry card and earn a chance to win a Barnes & Noble gift card!

WINNERS: One entry per name. Two Barnes & Noble gift card winners will be chosen at random on July 1, 2017, and immediately notified. Winners will also be announced on the WBNA Facebook page, the Wells Branch Neighbors Google Group, and the Wells Branch NextDoor account (first name/last initial only).

Happy reading and good luck!



WB Cultural Diversity Fair by Marisa Sawatphadungkij and Heather Johnson, Co-Chairs Bring your culture to our neighborhood!

Want to be a part of an exciting-fun event that enriches the lives of your neighbors? We still need more countries; please join us for this fun community event.

Next Planning Meeting: Sunday, May 21, 4pm at WB Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline Dr.

Current List of Countries Represented: Palestine, Scotland, Argentina, Germany, Thailand, Guatemala, Philippines, France, England*, Columbia, India, Hungary, Slovakia, Belgium, Netherlands, Honduras, Vietnam, Ethiopia, Mexico, El Salvador * = not confirmed

For more information, please visit our page at wbna.us/community/wb-cultural-diversity-fair or email us at wb-cultural-diversity@googlegroups.com.

The WBNA has requested articles from area places of worship outlining their beliefs and involvement in the community. We hope to feature several over the next few months. As with any of our articles, publication is not endorsement. We welcome input and interaction from all faiths. If you'd like to feature a place of worship which serves the Wells Branch area, please contact us at info@wbna.us.

St. Andrew's Presbyterían Church
OPEN MINDS, OPEN HEARTS, OPEN HANDS by Krista Keosheyan, St. Andrew's Librarian & Wells Branch resident

In 2017, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church celebrates its 25th year in the Wells Branch neighborhood. On the corner of Wells Branch Parkway and Wells Port Drive, St. Andrew's maintains the large green corner and offers a friendly welcome into the Wells Branch neighborhood.

In 1980, St. Andrew's congregation made a difficult decision to move from its location of 34 years on Koenig Lane in Austin to the Wells Branch community. This was a great leap of faith for many. For five years, until the new church could be designed and built, St. Andrew's held worship services in a nearby warehouse.

Thankfully, the Wells Branch neighborhood generously welcomed St. Andrew's, providing much support and encouragement. St. Andrew's still counts among its members several who made the move, in addition to many who were among Wells Branch neighborhood's earliest residents.

St. Andrew's has collaborated with the Municipal Utilities District, and Wells Branch neighbors, in many ways during the past 25 years, most recently to help ensure the corner is kept free from commercial development. In 2016, a national corporate entity approached St. Andrew's with a large monetary offer to buy the corner land for a commercial enterprise. The church congregation voted overwhelmingly to reject the offer and keep its home in Wells Branch.

Since 1988, helping neighbors with a food pantry has been an important part of St. Andrew's outreach and support services.

The pantry, like St. Andrew's, has grown and changed over the years. In 2016, St. Andrew's formalized a partnership with the Central Texas Food Bank. This allows St. Andrew's to increase its pantry offerings. Currently, the St. Andrew's food pantry feeds over 3,000 individuals and low-income families a year. Pantry days/hours of operations are the 2nd & 4th Saturday of each month, from 10:00am to 12:00pm.

No description of St. Andrew's would be complete without mentioning its inspirational leadership. Jim Rigby, Reverend of St. Andrew's for more than 30 years, has become a nationally recognized social justice and progressive Christian leader. Reverend Rigby never shies from controversy. He can often be seen at social justice events and regularly contributes to local and national media.

St. Andrew's attendees appreciate being challenged by Reverend Rigby to see and experience the New Testament in fresh, extremely relevant ways. While St. Andrew's is deeply rooted in Wells Branch, with a friendly small neighborhood vibe, the church constantly strives to meaningfully addressing current complex challenges faced by our country and world. The church welcomes all to visit and see if the St. Andrew's way of worship is right for them.

Sunday worship services are held at 8:15, and 10:45am. From 9:30 to 10:30am, Sunday school is offered for both children and adults. Find out more details about St. Andrew's at staopen.org

Vacation Safety Tips

If you plan to be away:

Let a neighbor and/or block captain know you'll be out of town and when you'll return. They should have the following: your emergency contact information; contact information for anyone with access to your house (pet sitter, etc.); when they should be expected; what they look like and a description of their vehicle(s).

Let only those who **NEED** to know, know when you are going out of town.

Don't share vacation plans OR photos on social media.

Arrange to have your lawn cared for if you are going to be away.

Don't hide keys under doormats, flowerpots or in similar places.

Put your lights, stereo and/or TV on timers.

Leave your car or a neighbor's car in the driveway.

Don't cancel your paper or mail deliveries; ask that your neighbor pick them up every day.

Store all your valuables

Leave a key with a friend or neighbor; ask that the house be checked at regular intervals.

Keep your house well lit at night (backyard included). A motion sensor or photocell activated light is an inexpensive deterrent..

Consider asking friends or relatives to live in your home while you are away.

Ask your neighbor to put trash in your trashcan and to put it out for collection and away when they put theirs away

File a Close Patrol Request. The filing of this form alerts patrolling officers so that they may pay close attention to one's residence. To do so: Contact the Travis County Sheriff's

Office at 512-854-9721. Ask to make a Close Patrol Request. You will be asked for information on those caring for your home while you're away: make and model of their vehicles, name, description and times they should be at your home.



Spring 2017 WB Photo Club Update by Margaret McGhee-Sufke

WB Photo Club kicked off the 2017 programs with two great lectures on Color Theory and Composition following up each lecture with hands-on workshops. We have begun pushing out various alternative meet up sessions for those folks who want to branch out even further into the hobby.

As the year progresses we are working to find a way to "warehouse" the various resources and make them available to the entire community. In the meantime, our group continues to partner with other community groups to help create photo albums for the various WB events.

We meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the WB REC Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive. Look for meeting reminder notes on the WB Google Group, the wbna.us calendar and WBNA Facebook page. Our meetings follow a drop-in session format and are open to the entire community.

Questions? Contact Margaret at mmsufke@gmail.com.

Disc Golf Tournament Success

by Brian Litke, Wells Branch Disc Golf Club



100 players competed in the 5th Annual Wells Branch Disc Golf Tournament on May 13, which is the largest turn out ever for this event. Players enjoyed the beautiful WB disc golf course, and I am proud to have served as tour-

nament director for a successful event that was enjoyed by so many!

Thank you to sponsors Branch BBQ, Bribery Bakery, Waterloo Disc Golf Club, and Dynamic Discs for door prizes and Mr. Wellsbranch Everyday for buying pizza for everyone after the round. A huge thank you to WB MUD Programs and Events Coordinator, Christine Taylor, WB MUD Staff Member Jennie Lopez, and WB MUD Board Director Janet Maxey who did a great job of processing event sign-ins, taking payments, and tallying scorecards. Many thanks to the WB Disc Golf Club members who helped run the event: Marcus Hazle, Shane Linney, and others.

Winners for each gender and age-based division included: WOMENS:

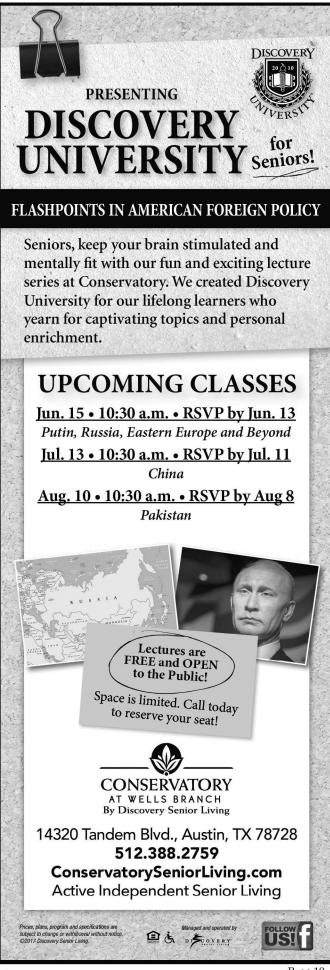
(50+) Annette Steinhardt • (40+) GiGi Baggerman Heermans (30+) Ash McLain • (20+) Kelsey Cemper • (11-13) Abigail Best (10 and under) Jozi Heermans

MENS:

(70+) John Fisher • (60+) Gary Harris • (50+) Tied - Jerry Perez & Mark Dwyer • (40+) Brian Litke • (30+) Jimmy Martinez • (20+) Corey Frankenhauser • (17-19) Nick Schiaffo • (14-16) Jett Heermans • (11-13) Nathan Bryant -(10-and-under) Patrick Herzog

JOIN THE CLUB!

If you're not a club member, consider joining! It's only \$10. Half of that goes to tree planting and the other half goes to support events like this. Also, club members get free entry into the annual picnic/mini in the fall. Find us on Facebook or by email at wellbranchdiscgolfclub@yahoo.com.





Community Calendar

May 21, 4pm: Cultural Diversity Fair Meeting, WBRC

May 23, 6pm: PfISD "The Field" Dedication, pg 4

May 23, 6:30-8:00pm: FOL Financial Series, WBCC, pg 16

May 27, 6-9pm: WB MUD Memorial Day Casino Night - Age 21+, WBRC

May 28, 12-4pm: Splash Day!, KF Pool

May 29: Memorial Day, No School for PfISD/RRISD

May 31: Travis County Tax Appraisal

Deadline to file BY MAIL

May 31: Last Day of School PfISD

June 1: Last Day of School RRISD

June 1: Summer Reading Program Begins, WBCL

June 4, 2-4pm: KWBB - Meet at the MUD Annex

June 8, 6:30-8:00pm: FOL Financial Series, WBCC, pg 16

June 4, 6-8pm: DIY Club, WBRC

June 10, 8am-5pm: WB MUD BULK TRASH, In-District ONLY, 13905 Thermal

June 10, 11am: VDR Training, WBRC

June 12, 8am: Birding in WB, Mills Pond Gazebo

June 13, 6:30pm: WB Photography Club, WBRC

June 15: FOL Photo Calendar Contest Deadline, pg 16

June 18, 6-8pm: Juneteenth Jazz on the Greens, WB Homestead

June 17, 11am: WB Garden Guild Tomato Tasting, WBRC

June 17, Dusk: WB MUD Movies in the Park -The Secret Life of Pets, KF Park

June 23, 9pm-Midnight: WB MUD Teen Pool Party, KF Pool

Save the Dates!

July 4: FourthFest - Details in June Issue!

July 8: Extreme Clean Summer - Quarterly Clean Up Day

Recurring -

Bird Walks: see calendar or page 9

Couch-2-5K Run Club: M/W/F, 6am, KF Gazebo

DIY Club: 1st Sun., 6-8pm, WBRC Photo Club: 2nd Tues., 6:30pm, WBRC Silver Branchers: Thurs., 1-3pm, WBRC

Running Club: Tu/Th, 5:45-6:45am, KF Gazebo

Your Wells Branch Neighbor & Specialist! TRUSTED • 5-STAR REVIEW AVERAGE • 14 YRS EXPERIENCE

New website designed just for you: www.HomeSalesAustinTexas.com

- "Communities" button shows homes for sale by subdivision: Wells Branch, Jack's Pond, Willow Run, Lake at Wells Branch & 20 other popular neighborhoods
- Search open houses each weekend
- Set up your own custom search and be emailed the instant a new listing hits the market
- Quick "Wells Branch Listings" button
- Helpful blogs with info on Wells Branch new construction, property tax protests & more
- Community Home Repair Vendor list





Tammy DeWitt Le, Realtor® Wells Branch Resident since 1999 (512) 773-3214 tammy@homesalesaustintexas.com

www.HomeSalesAustinTexas.com

Celebrate Juneteenth with Jazz on the Greens featuring

The Pamela Hart & James Polk Quartet June 18 • 6-8pm

WB Homestead • 2106 Klattenhoff Drive

Join the Wells Branch neighborhood in a celebration dating back to 1865: *Juneteenth*, an African American celebration of remembrance, emancipation, heritage and equality.

Jazz on the Greens will be a mellow, relaxing evening of jazz featuring Austin's Queen of Jazz, Pam Hart, and national

talent, James Polk. They will serenade the audience on Sunday evening on the lush greens at the WB Homestead at KF Park. Bring your blankets and lawn chairs and enjoy this inaugural event as Wells Branch comes together to commemorate Juneteenth.



OFFICE USE ONI	LY S	upport your Neighborhood A	ssociation		
Date:	by joining the	by joining the WBNA and continue to make Wells Branch great!			
Check:	—— Here is my d	Here is my check (made out to WBNA) for \$20 annual dues for 2017 $\overline{\mathbf{WBNA}}$			
! -	I am: r	enewing my membership	a new 1	member	
Name(s)			E-mail:		
Address:			Phone:		
I/we want to	o help with: N	ewsletter Delivery	_Crime Watch	July 4	th
		Nat'l Night			
MAIL TO: WBNA Membership, 2104 Klattenhoff, Austin, TX. 78728					