



Neighborhood News

News and information for the residents of Wells Branch.
Vol. 23, Issue 6, Holiday 2015



It's the most wonderful time of the year! by Debby Thompson, President, WBNA

There's a chill in the air, it finally smells like Fall, and the holidays are right around the corner! We have wonderful traditions in Wells Branch and we want our entire community to join in the celebrations. Reach out to the new folks so they feel welcome. Take time to reconnect with family, friends and neighbors. We look forward to seeing each of you at the festivities!

Thanksgiving Potluck

Saturday, November 21 • 6-8pm

It's a TRADITION! Join us for the Annual Wells Branch Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner. Fellowship will be held from 6-8pm at the Recreation Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive. Everyone is encouraged to bring a side dish or dessert to share with your neighbors. The turkey, ham, dressing, potatoes, bread, and beverages will be provided and served by the WB MUD.

Luminary Festival

Friday & Saturday, December 11 & 12 • 6-9pm

Experience the glow of the holidays as our trails light up with luminaries around Katherine Fleischer Park on December 11 & 12. Once again, the WBNA will be hosting Friday night's events and the Wells Branch MUD will host Saturday evening. Santa will be visiting the Homestead Cabin both nights from 6-9pm with FREE photos provided by WB Community Church.

WBNA sponsored craft tables will be set up both nights inside the Community Center and children will have the opportunity to make jewelry boxes for gifts, decorate ornaments, and color. Dianne Koehler and numerous volunteers will be on hand to assist the children with crafts and MUD staff will keep refreshments flowing.

Join us outdoors for a caroling hayride or a trip around the trails on the holiday express train to see the luminaries up close. We'll be starting the hayride at 5:30pm both nights so bring the little ones and come early.

Saturday night, the MUD will have live entertainment and the crafts will continue inside the Community Center with refreshments for all to enjoy. Wells Branch Community Church Band will perform outside the Buffalo House both Friday and Saturday; Wells Branch & Northwest Elementary School Choirs will be featured at the Homestead. See wells-branchmud.com for details as they unfold.

Holiday Home Decorating Contest

Break out the tinsel and holly! Deck the halls, yard, trees, cars, dogs, cats... Let's show some good ole WB spirit! The WBNA is sponsoring the Holiday Home Decorating Contest again this year! Judging will begin on Sunday, December 13. For more details, please visit our website at wbna.us. If you'd like to help judge or nominate a home, email lights@wbna.us. Be sure and watch for the "Winners" as we post signs in their yards and feature the homes on Facebook and wbna.us! Categories include: Most Original, Most Traditional, Most Elaborate, Best Use of Lights, Most Energy Efficient, Visible from Space and Most Patriotic. Winners in each category receive bragging rights and a gift card from Lowes.

Polar Express Pajamarama

Friday, December 18 • 6:00 & 7:30pm

All aboard, for WBCL's yearly Polar Express Pajamarama! Enjoy holiday crafts, hot cocoa and cookies, a bedtime reading of The Polar Express and a special visit from Santa Friday, December 18 at 6:00pm & 7:30pm! Advance online registration required. See wblibrary.org for details.

See page 19 for more holiday events!

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NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY MEETING
Thursday, December 3, 2015, 7pm
WB Community Center, 2106 Klattenhoff

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RRISD News by Debby Thompson

Construction of ES No. 34

Construction of ES #34, located at 2800 Sauls Drive, has completed foundation work and is on track for completion by Summer 2016.

New Principal for ES No. 34 Named

Round Rock ISD named Gabrielle Niño principal of Elementary School No. 34, at the groundbreaking ceremony July 28. Niño has served as the principal of Bluebonnet Elementary School for four years and has been a leader in Round Rock ISD since 2006. Visit roundrockisd.org/schools/elementary/elementary-school-34/ to learn more.

Naming Update

On November 19, 2015, the board-appointed naming committee recommended former mathematics teacher and administrator, Joe Lee Johnson, be selected for ES No. 34. If approved by the Trustees at the December 17 meeting, ES #34 will become the first school in RRISD to be named after an African-American. To read more about Mr. Johnson, visit the WBNA website under school construction.

Boundaries

THANK YOU to all of the parents from Wells Branch who made time to attend the boundary hearing at WBE on November 10, ask questions, and give input. While no decisions have been made, the District stated that it normally allows fifth graders to finish at their previous school if so desired and for siblings of fifth graders to continue at the original school that year as well.

Preliminary boundary change recommendations may be found at wellsbranchpta.org or wbna.us. The Trustees discussed feedback from these hearings at the November 19 regular meeting and a final recommendation is expected to be presented to the Board of Trustees at the regular board meeting on December 17, 2015 for approval.

Targeted Programming for Elementary Schools

RRISD has requested the WBNA host a meeting in January to discuss the exciting new programs being offered at both Wells Branch Elementary and ES No. 34. The new school's focus has been set as **STEAM** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics). As of publication, WBE's has yet to be determined. Differences in programs offered may affect the ability of parents to choose attendance at a specific school. Updates for this meeting will be listed on the WBNA website and Facebook page.

Playing Soccer Each Day Keeps the Winter Blues Away!

by Leisha Richardson, Secretary, WBSA



The days are growing shorter as we bring another fun Wells Branch Soccer Association (WBSA) season to a close. It's been an amazing season filled with 200+ games and fun community events, including our Fall Kick-Off party at KF Park with food and games for WBSA families; and the UT Women's Soccer game attended by WBSA players.

WBSA would like to thank our terrific community of volunteer coaches, team managers and families for donating their time to developing our 300+ athletes! We could not make the season happen without them.

Registration for the spring 2016 season is open now. Early registrants will receive a \$10 discount through the end of the year. And remember to like our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/WellsBranchSoccer, to receive notices about any upcoming special flash sale savings on spring 2016 registration. Multi-player family discounts will be available again for the coming season.

Visit www.wellsbranchsoccer.com to learn more today.



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CO ALARMS

- CO alarms should be installed outside each sleeping area. Install alarms on every level of the home. It is best to use interconnected alarms. When one sounds, all CO alarms in the home sound.
- Follow the instruction on the package to properly install the CO alarm.
- Test CO alarms at least once a month.
- Replace CO alarms according to the instructions on the package.
- Know the sounds the CO alarm makes. It will sound if CO is detected. It will make a different sound if the battery is low or if it is time to get a new CO alarm.
- If the battery is low, replace it.
- If the CO alarm sounds, you must get fresh air. Move outdoors, by an open window or near an open door. Make sure everyone in the home gets to fresh air. Call the fire department from a fresh air location. Stay there until help arrives.

PREVENT CO POISONING

- When warming a vehicle, move it out of the garage. Do not run a fueled engine indoors, even if garage doors are open. Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not blocked. Clear snow away.
- During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace are clear of snow build-up.
- Clear all debris from dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace vents.
- A generator should be used outdoors. Use in a well-ventilated location away from windows, doors, and vent opening.
- Gas or charcoal grills can produce CO. Only use them outside.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys inspected by a professional every year before cold weather sets in.
- Open the damper when using a fireplace for adequate ventilation.
- Never use your oven or stove to heat your home.

Travis County ESD No. 2
info@pflugervillefire.org
Source: nfpa.org/education

FACT!

CO is called the invisible killer because the gas cannot be seen or smelled. Take action to stay safe from CO poisoning.

22 yr WB resident & community volunteer

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

Peace & Prosperity to
you and yours for the
holidays and into 2016!



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TRAVIS COUNTY BROWN SANTA

BROWN SANTA is a community service program of the Travis County Sheriff's Office and many sponsors and volunteers (like you) who make it happen each year.

Brown Santa started in 1981 with a few deputies helping about 25 families in the unincorporated areas of Travis County. This year, it celebrates its 34th holiday season of helping and giving to children and families in need.



Help celebrate the joy of Christmas by donating or volunteering; browse their website for more information and donation suggestions by age and gender at traviscountytexas.gov/brown-santa. You can also call 512-24-SANTA (512-247-2682), or email traviscountybrownssanta@gmail.com to volunteer or donate.

Donation barrels are available at the Wells Branch Recreation Center on Shoreline through December 11 when they move to the Community Center for Luminary Fest. Pick up will be December 16 at the Rec. Center. Please share if you can to help make a Christmas morning special for a child.

The new location for the 2015 Brown Santa Warehouse is at 9101 Wall St., Bldg. 10, Ste. 1030 Austin, Texas 78754.

This program provides assistance to underprivileged children and their families in Travis County and Senior residents of local retirement centers in Travis County. Brown Santa is a tax-exempt organization (501c3).

"THIS IS A COMMUNITY EVENT FOR THE COMMUNITY BY THE COMMUNITY"

WB Traffic Updates:

Howard Lane at WB Pkwy

Travis County expects to begin construction of a traffic light at this intersection in January 2016.

WB Pkwy onto Mopac Left Turn Lane Extension

The existing double left turn lanes will be extended back to the Howard Lane intersection to allow for more cars to queue up at the light at MoPac.

Owen Tech Blvd at WB Pkwy

Travis County plans on marking the pavement for the installation of a traffic light at this intersection within the next week or two and begin construction of the light shortly thereafter.

Bratton at Sauls/Long Vista

A Traffic Study was done last week. Results are not yet available.

Bratton at Shoreline

A Traffic Study was done last week. Results are not yet available. In the meantime, bicycle lanes will be restriped at the intersection to allow for right turn lanes.

Shoreline/1325

This intersection is controlled by TXDOT. Dedicated right turn lanes have been requested for this intersection.

Completion of Grand Avenue between MoPac and I35

The portion of Grand Avenue west of Bratton that already exists will be widened to four lanes. Two other sections west of Bratton will be completed within the next two years. Unfortunately, the property owner of the portion closest to Bratton has no immediate plans for development. It's the last piece of the puzzle! Stay tuned for updates.

Cadoz Drive Extension

Cadoz Drive will be extended into the development north of Willow Run (Travesia). However, it will not directly intersect with Grand Avenue. Hopefully, this will deter additional traffic a bit while allowing another escape route for Wells Branchers.

Town Hill Drive at Merriltown

A Traffic Study was done last week. Results are not yet available.

Crosswalks on Wells Port

Travis County agreed to add reflective striping at the crosswalks on Wells Port to increase visibility.

This is just a brief summary of traffic issues currently being addressed with Travis County by both your MUD Safety Committee and the WBNA. For a more detailed report, please visit our website at wbna.us under the Construction Updates tab.

Pages for each of the current housing and apartment complexes currently under construction have also been set up on this site.

WB Walking Club

Come out and enjoy this amazing weather! WB Walking Club meets in front of KF Pool on Tuesdays & Thursdays and utilizes the Wells Branch MUD trails. Meet-up time is 9am. Temps are mild in the morning and the trails are beautiful; it's a perfect time to start walking! Questions? Contact Katie Hutcheson at khutcheson@wellsbranchmud.com.

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Venture Crew 1409 Update by Jill Douglass, Crew Advisor

As a Venturing adult advisor, one of the difficult tasks is allowing your crew to experience failure. On the September camp out at Lost Pines Scout Reservation the cooking accessories (pots, spoons, etc.) were left behind. Watching the crew members process the event from finger-pointing ("That was your fault, not mine!") to seeking rescue ("You'll drive back and get it, won't you?!") to eventual cooperation and problem solving ("Well, how can we make this work?") was a ton of fun. While I wouldn't say failure is a goal for Venturing, I would say it's a very valuable teaching tool.



In addition to experiencing failure (in the good way), the crew has also been training for a Spring Break backpacking trip in the Grand Canyon. The crew submitted two backcountry hiking itineraries (41 and 31 miles, respectively) to the National Park Service in late October. The backcountry permits are limited in number, so wish the crew luck in garnering one!



Finally, the crew headed for a short backpacking trip to Lost Maples State Natural Area in

early November to see some of the famous fall color.

To earn money to help fund their upcoming trek in the Grand Canyon and paddling voyage in the Atchafalaya swamp this summer, Well Branch's Venturing Crew 1409 will be wrapping holiday gifts for donations. If you like to shop, but would rather not wrap, let the scouts do the job for you!

Dates: Saturday, December 5 & Saturday, December 12
Time: 10:00am-2:00pm
Location: Wells Branch MUD Annex, 14611 Wells Port Dr, Austin, TX 78728

**If you have any left over wrapping paper you would like to donate, they'd be happy to accept that as well!*

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. Visit <http://www.crew1409.com/> to learn more!



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KUDOS!

Thanks to all of you who delivered our Fall Newsletter:

June Apprill • Dan Barnekow • Emily Berver • Kathy Brown • Karen Buerkle • Ashley Burns • Creola Burns • Phil & Dana Carter • Kim Clark • Chris & Alex Connell • Delian Filip • Michelle Gadush • Miriam, Melissa & Briana Garate • Susan Gezana • Carla Gordon • Katie, Kenneth, Sam, Evan & Mara Halling • Cynthia Hannon • Betsey Harper • Travers Hough • Bruce Jones • Gus Kohn • Siv, Jyoti & Arjuna Manda • Charlene, Graydon & Marshall May • Joan & Dave Mead • Gary Mueller • Arlie Pfeifer • Amanda & Thomas Reed • Marisa, Mischa & Tasha Sawatphadungkij • Julie Schwartz • Jim & Kaleigh Simpson • Sonya, Tim, Ethan, Andrew & Brendan Shaffer • Alice Sears • Ralph Simon* • Virgil Smith • Mona & Gayle Speranza • DeLane Spriggs • Marie Streusand • Debby Thompson • Jill & J.R. Traffanstedt • Kevin, Lisa, Sarah, Faith, Grace & Liam Ward • Mike Weis • Ronnie Weiss • Daniel White • Pamela & Bre Woodward

Last, but not least, thank you to all who contribute articles and share information. Our newsletter continues to grow because of you. Keep the articles coming!

Greetings from Pack 728!

by Shannon Best

First campout of the season: SUCCESS! We had approximately 23 families. Temperature was perfect! The scouts learned how to set up tents, cook and clean up. Our adventure also included a 1.5 mile hike. The outing was certainly a victory thanks to all the parents, leaders and outstanding behavior from our boys. Pack 728 will host a Thanksgiving potluck in November, assist with lighting the luminaries at KF Park for Luminary Fest on Saturday, December 12 and volunteer at Brown Santa to help wrap gifts for those in need. Come see what we're about. We meet every Wednesday evening at 6:30pm at the Live For More Center on the corner of Bratton and Merriltown. For more info, email us at pack728@gmail.com.

Holiday Safety Tips

by Debby Thompson, WBNA President & WB Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

With the bustle of the holidays just around the corner, make sure you're taking every precaution possible to keep your home and family safe and secure. We usually see an increase in opportunistic crime this time of year; please remain vigilant.

Keep your blinds and drapes closed when away, even if only for a short period of time.

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

If your Christmas tree is displayed in front of a window, don't pile the presents around it. Store the gifts in another area away from view when the blinds or drapes are open.

Do NOT put the empty boxes for the new computer, TV, stereo system, etc. on the curb for the trash. Take the time to break down every box and put it inside your trashcan/recycling bin so that it is concealed, even if you have to hold it over to the next week. People start cruising our neighborhood on Sunday afternoons to see what has been put out. The less they know, the better.

Door-to-door solicitations increase tremendously this time of year. **Always look out the window or peephole before opening the door or answering a knock.** Never open the door all the way, especially if you have a Christmas tree and/or presents in plain view.

While shopping this holiday season, remain aware of your surroundings at all times. If unsure of your safety, ask a store attendant to have security walk you to your car. You can't be too safe. This goes for trips to the grocery store as well. When unloading your car at home after a day of shopping, lock it between trips to and from the car.

Always lock your car. Never leave your car running unattended or leave your keys in the car or ignition. If you usually keep a garage door remote control in your car and don't park it in the garage each and every time you return home, hide the remote or take it inside. Thieves check visors and this gives them instant protected access to your home.

Don't leave valuables in plain view, even if your car is locked. Take them in the house or put them in the trunk out of sight **BEFORE** arriving at your destination.

Keep the inside door from your home to the garage LOCKED.

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 on social media.

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

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

Put your lights, stereo or TV on timers.

Leave a car in the driveway or ask a neighbor to park in it.

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

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

Store all your valuables.

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 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 i.e. make and model of their vehicles, name, description and times they should be at your home.

A comprehensive list of Safety Tips as well as numerous articles by the Travis County Sheriff Deputies are available on our website, wbna.us under Safety.

If you are not already, become a Wells Branch Neighborhood Association member. "Like" us on Facebook for community updates. The more community involvement and connectedness there is, the safer we all will be.

Most of all, be aware of your surroundings and look out for your neighbors. If you see or hear something suspicious, call 911. The Sheriff's Department would much rather answer a false alarm than deal with a tragedy later.

We live in a **GREAT** community **AND** a **SECURE** neighborhood. Let's all do our part to keep it that way. **Here's to a safe and happy holiday season!**

WB Photo Club by Margaret McGhee-Sufke

"Season 2" of the WB Photo Club started very brightly--literally. Steve Hilchey provided a great hands on class for flash photography. We also had the opportunity to apply recently gained portrait lighting knowledge (hosted by Scott Swain) to the flash session.

Our December 8 session will be another hands on meeting and will continue with lighting topics.

We're looking for a guest speaker who can provide more details on lens selection and include some additional information on filters as well for a future meeting.

We will continue to meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month in the Rec. Center portables. All sessions are "drop in" and all skill levels and camera types are welcome.



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Birding in Wells Branch by Wanda Holcombe



Skip the Bird Feeders and Plant More
Native Plants in Your Yard to Attract
and Feed the Birds.....

According to an article on the Lady Bird
Johnson Wildflower Center website:
[http://www.wildflower.org/
feature/?id=169](http://www.wildflower.org/feature/?id=169) studies show that

birds prefer native plants over bird feeders. "If you plant it,
they will come," is an unspoken mantra among Lady Bird
Johnson Wildflower Center staff.

Personally, I have started putting out less bird feed and have
planted more native plants that attract birds to our yard, and
we live on the trail by the creek where the riparian growth
attracts a lot of birds as well. However I still make my own sugar water for our
Hummingbird Feeder and purchase
Feed for the Lesser Goldfinch for our
own back porch entertainment in
order to enjoy them "up close" as they
are so beautiful to watch feeding.



I hope you'll find some of the following highlights from the
Wildflower Center website helpful for your own yard:

Skip the Bird Feeder

- Most North American songbirds, depend on insects present on native plants to feed their young.
 - The more diverse the vegetation and the fewer the cats, the more bird species were counted, and...
 - Having a bird feeder didn't increase the number or the variety of wild species cataloged.
 - The way birds flock at feeders may have a downside, too, as an eye disease in house finches has recently been shown to spread more quickly among birds congregating at feeders.
- With winter looming, Horticulturist Sierra DaSilva suggests keeping "deadheads" of dried flowers on stalks for a month or two after seeds ripen adds structural beauty to your landscape while helping hungry wildlife. "If you plan your space with birds in mind," DaSilva says, "you can easily offer them something for every season."

Check the wbna.us site for the native plant suggestions and the calendar of our hosted bird walks and special birding events. **Happy Birding!**

Wanda Holcombe: wandah70@gmail.com
Sharon Richardson: srich816@austin.rr.com
Heather Johnson: frioswimmer@gmail.com



WB MUD Fall Youth Fishing Tournament Photos

by Wells Branch Photo Club
Photographer, Justin Zamudio are available on the WBNA Facebook page. Select Photos, then Albums. Albums are listed in reverse chronological order. Enjoy!



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Fri - Sat 10am-6pm
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Winter Reading Program: 11/14/2015 through 01/09/2016

Try out the library's new digital Winter Reading program, ReadSquared. Log your reading to earn prizes, raffle tickets, and to unlock fun games! Programs for all ages! Register at www.wblibrary.readsquared.com.



Special Youth & Family Programs

Signing Connection Storytime: 12/10 at 11am. All ages can learn sign language through fun and interactive songs and stories.

Kwanzaa Celebration: 12/5 at 2:00pm. African native storyteller, Elizabeth Kahura brings Kwanzaa to life with interactive stories and songs for all ages to enjoy.

Ornament Making: 12/6 at 1:30 & 3pm. Create homemade ornaments you'll want to hang up year after year. Tickets available at the kids' desk starting 11/25.



Heartsong Music Demo: 12/7 at 10:30 & 11:15am
All ages are invited to explore music in this free demo class.



Hanukkah Crafts (ages 5+): 12/7 at 3:30pm
Create crafts to celebrate the Festival of Lights.

Snowflake Workshop (ages 5+): 12/14 at 3:30pm
Learn to make beautiful and unique snowflake crafts.



Polar Express Pajamarama: 12/18 at 6:00pm & 7:30pm. Enjoy hot cocoa, crafts, a visit from Santa and a special bedtime reading of *The Polar Express*!

ASL Storytime for all ages with Mrs. Claus: 12/21 at 11:15am & 12/22 at 6pm Mrs. Claus will visit the library to read stories using sign language!

1,000 Books before Kindergarten: Pick up a starter kit at the kids desk to participate in this new early literacy program!

Find us on Facebook & Pinterest for up-to-date information, fun facts and activity ideas.

Special Adult Programs

Getting Published, Indie vs. Traditional Publishing: 11/18 at 6pm. Author Abby Goldsmith discusses her experiences.

Basics of Retirement Planning: 12/10 at 6:30pm. Financial strategies to help you achieve the retirement lifestyle you want. Register at wblibrary.eventbrite.com.



Resume Makeovers: 12/19 at 10:30am. Get help updating your resume. Register at wblibrary.eventbrite.com.

Teen Programs

Nail Art Workshop: November 21st at 1pm

Winter Party: December 18th at 6pm

Teen Advisory Group (TAG): Earn volunteer hours and make an impact by leading events, creating displays, and suggesting new books. Fill out an interest card at the library to get started.

Regular Youth Programs

Baby Bookworms (0-18 mos.): Mon at 10:30am

Baby Bookworms (12-24 mos.): Mon at 11:15am

Storytime & Craft (all ages):** Tues at 6:30pm

Arts & Crafts** - Wed at 6pm - ages 8+ (or with an adult)

Toddler Storytime - Fri at 10:30am

Preschool Storytime - Fri at 11:15am

Storytime & Craft (all ages) - Sat at 11am

Bow Wow Reading Dogs (ages 5+) - Practice reading aloud to Ella on Saturdays at noon.

Sessions are available on a first come, first serve basis.

**free tickets are available 30 minutes before these programs



Regular Adult Programs

Morning Yoga - Select Thursdays at 10:30am. Relax with our free classes for all levels. 11/19, 12/3, 12/17, 1/7 & 1/21

Writer's Guild- 1st Wed of each month at 6:30pm. Connect with local authors and get feedback. 12/2 & 1/6

English Conversation Group - Select Saturdays at 10:30am. All levels are welcome! 11/21, 12/5, 12/19, 01/02 & 1/16

Knit & Crochet Group - 3rd Thurs of each month at 6:30pm. Needles, yarn and instruction are provided. 11/19 & 12/17

Adult Computer Classes - see our Eventbrite page for dates, topics and registration to take charge of the digital domain!

Book Clubs

Steamy Reads: 1st Wednesday of each month at 6pm:
12/2 *Beyond the Highland Mist* by Karen Marie Moning

Clueless Mysteries: 3rd Sunday of each month at 3pm:
12/20 Holiday Party and selecting books for 2016

Wine, Women & Words: 1st Thursday of each month at 7pm:
12/3 Holiday Party and selecting books for 2016



The library will be closed on November 26 & 27, December 24-26, and January 1. We will close at 4pm on November 25 & December 31.

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**See event photos on the
WBNA Facebook page from
Pumpkin Patch & Painting,
Trunk-or-Treat, Costume Contest,
National Night Out, Hazardous Waste
and more!**



Wells Branch Neighborhood Association Proclamation

RESOLUTION

Declaring November 13 "World Pancreatic Cancer Day" in the Wells Branch Neighborhood.

WHEREAS in 2015, an estimated 48,960 people will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in the United States and 40,560 will die from the disease;

WHEREAS pancreatic cancer is one of the deadliest cancers, is currently the fourth leading cause of cancer death in the United States and is projected to become the second by 2020;

WHEREAS pancreatic cancer is the only major cancer with a five-year relative survival rate in the single digits at just seven percent;

WHEREAS when symptoms of pancreatic cancer present themselves, it is generally late stage, and 73 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first year of their diagnosis while 93 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first five years;

WHEREAS approximately 2,550 deaths will occur in Texas in 2015;

WHEREAS pancreatic cancer is the 7th most common cause of cancer-related death in men and women across the world;

WHEREAS there will be an estimated 367,000 new pancreatic cancer cases diagnosed globally in 2015;

WHEREAS the good health and well-being of the residents of Wells Branch Neighborhood is enhanced as a direct result of increased awareness about pancreatic cancer and research into the early detection, causes, and effective treatments; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Wells Branch Neighborhood Association designates November 13 as "World Pancreatic Cancer Day" in the Wells Branch Neighborhood.



Keep Wells Branch Beautiful by Katie Hutcheson

What is KWBB?

It's Keep Wells Branch Beautiful. And YOU are KWBB!

We address the areas of litter prevention, community beautification and waste reduction. It's our opportunity to make Wells Branch the cleanest, most beautiful community in Texas! We'll get together the **FIRST SUNDAY** of each month to tackle a project. Sunday, December 6, from 2-4pm, come out and join us in removing invasive plants from the trail areas. We'll meet at the pavilion at Katherine Fleischer Park.

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



Arbor Day Success

The second annual Keep Wells Branch Beautiful Arbor Day Event on November 8 was held at the Katherine Fleischer pavilion. Thank you to Zane Johnson, Rebecca Johnson and Paul Johnson for volunteering their time to educate residents on trees, the burr oak tree saplings, educational handouts, bracelets and stickers. The children's art activities were hosted by Dianne Koehler again this year, thank you, Dianne! The leftover tree saplings will be planted along the creek bed at our next Keep Wells Branch Beautiful event held on December 6, from 2-4pm.

Holiday Trash & Recycling Pickup Schedule Changes



November: Thanksgiving Day, November 26, there will be no trash pickup. Collection will roll one day forward for routes normally collected on Thursday and Friday. Thursday moves to Friday, November 27 pickup. Friday collection moves to Saturday, November 28.

December: Due to the holidays there will be no trash or recycling pickup on Friday, December 25 or Friday, January 1. Collection will roll one day forward to Saturday, December 26 and Saturday, January 2. Remember, **WEEKLY** recycling collection begins on Monday, December 28, 2015 so don't forget to put both bins out!

Holiday Yard Waste Pickup Schedule

Each year TexaScapes suspends curbside yard waste pickup the week between Christmas and New Years. For 2015 there will be no curbside pickup during the week of December 27 through January 3. Services will resume on Monday, January 4, with extra crew on hand to handle expected Christmas tree disposal. All compostable materials should be placed at curbside by Monday morning. Christmas trees can be placed at curbside or at the east end of the Community Center Parking Lot at KF Park for pickup.

Coming in January 2016- The WB MUD has contracted with Progressive Waste for **WEEKLY** curbside single-stream recycling. That's right - NO MORE CALENDARS! Recycling pick up will be available EVERY SINGLE WEEK! The additional cost per household of \$1.75 per month will be absorbed by the MUD (yes, it's free, folks). The contract calls for a trial 15-month period beginning January 1, 2016 and ending April 30, 2017. During this time, the MUD will collect data to see if this additional service increases participation and warrants continuation. No excuses now! Please help spread the word and encourage your neighbors to RECYCLE!

Recycling Calendar

Currently, recycling pickup only occurs every other week on regular trash collection days. For a complete list of recyclable items, please visit www.wbna.us => community => recycling.

Clip & Save Recycling Calendar

December 2015

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

EXTREME CLEAN **Saturday, January 9** **Wells Branch Maintenance** **Yard • 13905 Thermal**

Habitat for Humanity • 8am-1pm

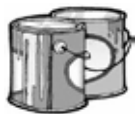
Easter Seals • 8am-4pm

Homeless Helpings • 8am-4pm

Accepting hotel-size toiletries for those experiencing homelessness.

Bulk Trash • Styrofoam • Metal
Drop Off

Household Waste Collection
8am-5pm



Batteries • Paint* • Antifreeze* ONLY
*MUST be in closed container.

ATTENTION: We will no longer be able to accept ANY TYPE of OIL (cooking or motor), car or boat batteries.

Motor oil may be dropped off at McSpadden's Automotive (NW corner of IH35/WB Pkwy) from 8am-4pm free of charge.

For a complete revised list of acceptable items, see WBNA.us.

Questions? Call 512-656-0654.

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Happy Holidays!

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Connally Cougar Celebration 2016



Connally High School Project Graduation (Cougar Celebration 2016) would like to thank all of you who donated items during the Extreme Clean Fall event. We collected 1262 pounds of clothing for

Easter Seals, and raised \$252 for CC2016! Special thanks to our parent volunteers, Debby Thompson and all the WBNA volunteers who supported us at this event. In the spring, we will be doing a similar event with Goodwill, so we hope you'll consider saving items for that time as well!

Sheet Sales - As the holidays approach, don't forget that we are still selling our **1200 Thread count sheet sets** for \$45, no matter what size. They come in a variety of colors and are amazingly soft and long-lasting. For more information and to order, please send your name, address and cell phone number, with size, color and quantity to Debbie Brown at marketimpress@austin.rr.com or call 512-422-2372.

Flamingos - Our pink flock of flamingos would love to come and "flock" a lawn for a special birthday, anniversary, or just for fun! Cost is only \$25! This is a unique way to surprise someone on their special day. To "Flock a Friend", contact Linda Casper at ghosthouse5@austin.rr.com or 512-771-3005. We can't wait to hear from you!

Reverse Raffle Dinner - Our biggest fundraiser of the year, the **Reverse Raffle Dinner and Silent Auction**, will be held in February. This is a huge community event including a Reverse Raffle, entertainment, dinner, door prizes, games, a silent auction and raffle items. Silent auction items are needed to help make this a fabulous fundraising event. If you are interested in donating a silent auction item, please contact Linda Casper. **Thanks for helping us keep the kids that have grown up in our neighborhood safe on graduation night!!**

WB Elementary News



PTA Updates by Blythe Jewell

Thanks to our amazing Moveathon Chairperson Jeaneane McNulty, we raised more than \$10,000 net during the Get Movin' fundraiser this fall! That's all money that will go back into our school. We couldn't be more grateful to Jeaneane and everyone who so generously donated their time and/or money. And the kids and parents loved it so much, we're already getting excited about Moveathon 2016 next year!

Also, our International Fair was held on November 5, and it was super fun! Thanks so much to Laura Gomez-Horton, who organized the event, and everyone who helped make it a huge success. Our amazing families, teachers, staff, performers, and sponsors come through for us every year, and we can't tell you how much the PTA appreciates it!

Now we're turning our attention to the rapidly approaching holidays, and making plans for some fun events. Here are a few upcoming dates you might want to make note of:

- Nov. 23-27: Thanksgiving Break (no school)
- Dec. 8: PTA General Meeting and Holiday Performance
- Dec. 12: Holiday Fest
- Dec. 17: PTA Coffee Hour
- Dec. 18: Teacher Prep Day/Student Holiday (no classes)
- Dec. 21 – January 1: Winter Break
- Jan. 4: Teacher Prep Day/Student Holiday (no classes)

Holiday Fest will be held at the school on Saturday, December 12 and we have a ton of exciting, fun activities planned! Holiday Karaoke, Ugly Sweater Contest, Photo Booth, Arts and Crafts... the list goes on and on. To make all of this awesomeness happen, though, we will need help from our amazing volunteers. If you'd like to volunteer your time, supplies, or something else, please email us at holidayfest@wells-branchpta.org and let us know what you have to share. It'll be a great kick-off to the holidays and winter break!

Please visit the Wells Branch PTA web site at www.wells-branchpta.org for a calendar of events and news about what we have going on. Thanks so much for your support!

Parking Safety Reminders for School Zones

- Do not park within 30 ft of a stop sign.
- Do not park within 20 ft of the designated crosswalks.
- Do not park right up to the edge of an intersection as this prevents emerging traffic from having clear vision and safe entry into the intersection.
- Do not block the driveways of residents even if only for a moment.
- Do not leave cars unattended. Park your car. Turn it off. Set the brake. Lock it and take the keys with you.

Please remember that everything we ask of you is for the safety of our children and their families.

***We've experienced issues with the areas surrounding WB Elementary. Even if there isn't a sign for it, please use common sense and courtesy when parking close to intersections or crosswalks. Thank you for helping keep our kids safe!

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McNeil HS Project Grad 2016

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Winner to be announced at our February 20, 2016 Project Graduation Reverse Raffle Winner Dinner (need not be present to win). A "Taste of McNeil" will be a fabulous

evening of fun & entertainment. There will be plenty of food as we taste the finest of local restaurants that support McNeil High School. It will be a BYOB event with a DJ and a silent auction.

To purchase tickets, visit: mcneilprojectgrad.ch2v.com/content.asp?PageID=3

WBE Farmer's Market by Dianne Koehler

Farmer's Market at Wells Branch Elementary is now open every Wednesday at 2:30pm to sell ORGANIC student grown and harvested vegetables and herbs to the community. WBE FM will also have a few vegetable products like vinegars, marinades, and bath salts available. Come see us for your winter greens and more each week and help the kids manage their business.

Wells Branch Elementary is at the corner of Town Hill and Merriltown, across from Bratton Square. Special orders and late pickup are generally available.

Watch for weekly reminders to the Google Group and Wells Branch Facebook pages as we update featured produce and any changes to schedule there.

Sign up for REVERSE 911 NOTIFICATIONS!

Receive emergency notifications from your local emergency response team in the event of critical situations or urgent community alerts. Just follow the link below to register. You can set your preferences based on types of notifications you desire. Examples include: evacuation notices, bioterrorism alerts, boil water notices, and missing child reports.

When a child went missing at Wells Branch Elementary last month, I received calls to my home, cell and a text simultaneously. They called back when the child had been found. This alert system can be linked to multiple phones, emails and locations.

Go to <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/21C524> to sign up.

Concordia HS News

- A Successful Sports & Extracurricular Season by Jim Binneboese



Concordia High School is growing in the classroom and also on the fields of play. We are very excited about our sports teams and their accomplishments. There are several sports teams that have excelled this season.

The Cardinal Football team, in only its second season of playing 6-man Football, qualified for state playoffs in the TAPPS conference. (Texas Assoc. of Private and Parochial Schools.)

The CHS Soccer team has also advanced to post season play and the Cross Country Team sent several runners to the TAPPS State playoffs. Junior James Kenyon placed 2nd and Sophomore Katie Miller placed 4th in the contests.

The Drama Department also qualified for the upcoming state finals with a One Act Play presentation – The Curious Savage.

There is a lot going on at the school as the students continue to get a full well-rounded education. Concordia High School is very close to Wells Branch – temporary campus is 1500 Royston Lane in Pflugerville. Permanent property is located just south of the PASL fields on Heatherwilde.

Northwest Elementary News by Cindy Padavick



Thank you very much for your recent involvement in our school's Fall Festival & Brochure fundraiser; we are so blessed to have so many be part of our Northwest Elementary Family. You all truly make a difference in the lives of our staff, teachers, and students. The success of the Fall Festival was a reflection of the ever-increasing dedication and enthusiasm that our volunteers display on a continual basis. We sold over \$15,000 in brochure sales and our portion will go towards purchasing iPads for our classrooms. Please remember, we simply couldn't have done it without you! We would like to take this opportunity to say a heartfelt "Thank You!" to all our PTO members, NW staff, parents and community volunteers.

We're looking forward to our PTO sponsored "Cookies with Santa" on Friday, December 11, 6:30-8:30pm.

Visit our school website (pfsd.net/Domain/24) or follow us on Facebook or Twitter to stay updated on all school events!



Youth Fowl Shot Contest

Tuesday, November 24 • 6pm

Wells Branch youth are invited to test their basketball skills and maybe win a turkey to take home for Thanksgiving and an HEB gift card. The contest starts at 6pm in the Wells Branch MUD Recreation Center Gym on Shoreline. Participants accumulate points by competing in a variety of basketball activities (Free Throw, 3-pt Around the World, and Knockout). Age groups will be split into three groups: 8-10, 11-13, and 14-17. Grand-prize winners from each age group will receive a turkey. Registration is free and will begin early November in the Rec. Center.

Wells Branch Running Club by Russell Jones

The Wells Branch 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. Whether you are running at a 12 minute mile or a 6 minute mile, you will find the club is a great way to reach your fitness goals and have fun doing it. We have over 20 active members each run - Come join the fun!

For more information: www.wbrunclub.com or call, text, or e-mail Russell@wbrunclub.com, (512) 825 - 2369

National Public Lands Day Success!

National Public Lands Day was a big success in Wells Branch, with over 40 people volunteering their time and energy. Volunteers picked up litter, spread free mulch from Austin Parks Foundation and planted nine new live oak trees and 3 Texas sage bushes in the WB greenbelt at the disc golf course. Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Venture Crew, disc golf players, members of the WB neighborhood, as well as people from surrounding communities in Pflugerville and Austin showed up to help keep Wells Branch Beautiful.

Trees were planted to help repopulate the greenbelt, which loses many trees each year to drought or old age.

A special thank you to:

- the volunteers who showed up to work! Nine trees and three bushes were planted in the first 90 minutes.
- Katie Hutcheson of the Wells Branch MUD who organizes Keep WB Beautiful Events and helped mightily by distributing mulch using the WB 4-wheeler/dumptruck.
- Wells Branch MUD for providing a beautiful park and allowing us to help improve it
- Wells Branch Disc Golf Club for donating over \$500 worth of trees and planting supplies.
- park workday leader, Brian Litke
- KIND bars for the snacks!
- Austin Parks Foundation, for organizing the event and providing free mulch.

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We do Halloween BIG in Wells Branch! by Debby Thompson

Pumpkin Patch & Painting

What a fun event! Thank you to everyone who came out to the Andy Allen Team Pumpkin Patch and WBNA Pumpkin Painting in the Park with Dianne Koehler! We hope you all enjoyed it.

Thank you Andy Allen for your generous donation of pumpkins for our Wells Branch kids! Thanks Dianne Koehler for lugging all the supplies to the park and encouraging all our budding artists. Thank you also WBNA volunteers: Chuck Walters, Lara Bennett, Jolanda Whaling, Carla Gordon and Pam Wachholz and our wonderful photographers: Steve Hilchey, Madonna Johnson, Margaret Sufke, and Debby Thompson.



WBNA Costume Contest a Success!

Thanks to all of you who came out early for our first annual Halloween Costume Contest! We had a wonderful turnout and hope that you enjoyed it as much as we did. Winners received a trophy and a Halloween horn and had the honor of leading the parade into Trunk or Treat.

And the Golden Witches went to:

Ages 0-3

Most Creative • Ariel • Evelyn Ruteki
Scariest • Dinosaur • Leo Saenz
Cutest • Chef • Maddie Cooper

Ages 4-6

Most Creative • Robot • Paola Valdez
Scariest • Scary Clown • Kaydence Taylor
Cutest • Butterfly • Mazzy Berber

Ages 7-9

Most Creative • Social Butterflies • Feliz and Faith Foxworth
Scariest • Wolverine • Brady Bennett
Cutest • Cat • Ciara Monroe

Ages 10-12

Most Creative • Mummy • William Lunsford
Scariest • Grim Reaper • Donovan Correa
Cutest • Soldier • Alexis Anderson



Special thanks to our guest emcee, the superb witch, Julie Schwartz and to the following volunteers (in alphabetical order) who made it possible: Anne Bennett, Lara Bennett, Owen Bennett, Susan Gezana, Donna Malone, Shelley Palmer and our photographer, Madonna Johnson.

*Please forgive us if we've misspelled any names. Just let us know and we'll get it corrected. Please visit our Facebook page for more photos!

Trunk or Treat

Each year, the WB MUD hosts Halloween Trunk or Treat in the parking lot at the Community Center. Community service groups and Halloween aficionados set up shop for a huge community block party.

The MUD sponsors Party Face Fotos, a Wells Branch photo booth, the WBNA builds a cemetery and takes portraits of the ghouls and goblins for Facebook, Miss Arden Elizabeth high-fives the kiddos and her humans give out candy, the Wells Branch Armada and GSA and BSA Troops and Crews offer activities and goodies for all the revelers. Wells Branch Community Church serves up hot dogs so the Trick or Treaters have a little nourishment before the mandatory induced sugar shock (1500 at the KF location and another 600 over in Willow Run). It truly is a community event! In addition to Trunk or Treat, numerous block parties and haunted houses were held throughout Wells Branch as well.

Thank you to Madonna Johnson as it truly is a labor of love to capture all the night creatures in front of the graveyard. Special thanks to all the volunteers who helped set up the WBNA graveyard this year, our candy and prize volunteers, and everyone who pitched in to help break it down at the end of the night. It continues to grow each year!

Our WBNA Cemetery Volunteers included: Chuck Walters, Debby Thompson, Gus Kohn, Shelley Palmer, Janet Maxey, Ralph Simon, Matt Fuller, Craig Smith, Paul Karshens and Madonna Johnson.

Thank you to WB MUD for hosting such a fun event for our neighborhood, with a special shout out to Rec. Manager, Matt Fuller, MUD staff Christine Taylor and Paul Karshens, and to all the other community service groups and neighbors who graciously donated their time and energy to this community event.

Visit the WBNA Facebook page for cemetery, crowd and block party photos taken by Madonna Johnson, Piper Sharpe (a new beginning photographer who was kind enough to help take photos) and Debby Thompson. We hope you all enjoy the pictures. **For more photos, visit the WBNA Facebook page, select Photos, then albums. Each event has it's own album and they're sorted in reverse chronological order.**

As always, feel free to tag yourselves and let us know if there are any photos you'd prefer we take down.

National Night Out Recap by Debby Thompson

As many of you know, the WBNA Silent Auction each July 4th funds National Night Out in Wells Branch. NNO is our biggest event and one of the ways we give back to Wells Branch. Our tremendous sense of community is what continues to shape our neighborhood and helps maintain that small town feel. Thank you everyone for making time to come out and join us. We had an outstanding turnout and served up 800 hotdogs and sausage wraps on top of all the veggies, chips and drinks.

Special thanks go out to the Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2. Y'all are awesome! We appreciate the use of the Fire Safety House and the opportunity to see the fire truck up close and visit with Asst. Chief Tom Crane. We value your service to our community. Congratulations on your 60th Anniversary ESD #2!

Thank you TCSO! We are always grateful for the Travis County Sheriff's presence at our events. Thanks to each of our WB officers, Captain Craig Smith, Deputies Deke Pierce and Robert Phillips, and Community Outreach Director, Kelly Page.

Thanks Travis County Constable's Office Pct. 2 Explorer Post #711. Your enthusiasm in talking with our youth about careers in law enforcement has made a lasting impression on our community.

Wells Branch Community Library hosted a safety themed table with cool giveaways for all the kids. It was a wonderful addition to the event.

The Friends of the Library Board and Members Gus Kohn, Joan & Dave Mead, Gary Mueller and Madonna Johnson helped out by serving Culvers frozen custard to everyone. Thanks, WBCL & FOL!



Last but not least, thank you to all the WBNA Board Members and volunteers who make this event happen each year: Pit Master Chuck Walters, and Special Guest Pit Master, Chris Carby from Branch BBQ; Dianne Koehler for her delicious contribution of homemade hummus and beans; Donna and Paul Malone, Lara Bennett, Linda Baird, John Altman, Betsey Harper, Marisa Sawatphadungkij, Christiane Lunsford, Tina Do, Pam Wachholz, Janet Maxey, Marie Streusand, Shelley Palmer, Madonna Johnson, Debbie Brown, Gus Kohn and Pamela Woodward.

We also want to thank the MUD Board and District Manager for the use of their facilities when hosting WBNA community events, as well as all the extra effort by the MUD Staff who made sure the grill was ready, the lights came on when needed, and help with set-up and tear-down of the event. Andy, Fred, Jim, Mouse and Jake, we appreciate all that you do to make and keep WB special.

Visit our Facebook page for event photos and a more detailed "Thank you".

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Opportunities to Improve the WB Disc Golf Course

by Brian Litke

As a community, it is important to regularly review all neighborhood amenities to ensure their designs are sound and the features are functioning as expected. The Wells Branch disc golf course, established in 1996, was expanded from 9 to 18 targets in 2013. With the new course design now in its third year of use, the WB MUD Board collaborated with the WB Disc Golf Club to review areas where the disc golf course is adjacent to the stream, to identify any areas that are showing unexpected wear, and to implement strategies to replant the worn areas and eliminate future wear along the creek.

The collaboration has been fruitful, and many course adjustments have already been implemented. On November 3, community members gathered to hear about the progress taken, review future improvement strategies, and suggest new ideas for consideration. So far, eight disc golf targets have been moved farther away from the stream. A side benefit of some target moves was the shortening of several fairways, making the course more community-friendly and well-suited to families, couples, and youth. Other inexpensive solutions that are being planned include adjusting tee box locations, selecting new areas to relocate fairways, adding natural fencing as a backstop to a couple of specific areas, and reviewing the course annually to identify new issues that may arise.

With a more sustainable design, players will aim their discs away from the creek, not towards it, and the community can have both an enjoyable amenity and a beautiful stream next to it. The disc golf course, tucked away in the SE corner of Wells Branch, is a beautiful piece of property, even more so with over 40 new trees paid for by the WB Disc Golf Club.

During the review of the disc golf course, the MUD Board noticed an unrelated problem: the trails along the stream in that area are experiencing significant and regular washouts due to drainage issues caused by the impervious cover from the apartments and storage facility that line the west side of the stream. The MUD is investigating drainage infrastructure solutions to reduce erosion and trail washouts caused by rain and flood drainage.

Our park system is a living thing that needs care and nourishing. As stewards of the land, we will always be on the lookout for opportunities to maintain and improve the treasure of Wells Branch, our greenbelt.

Open Ears Concerts

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church • 14311 Wells Port Drive

Open Ears Concerts, hosted by St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, is a monthly series that presents established and emerging artists, mainly in acoustic genres such as folk, bluegrass, world, and jazz. Bring your family and friends, and a snack to share in an alcohol free, family friendly, peaceful, listener-oriented environment. *While there is a suggested donation of \$20, no one will be turned away.

Visit staopen.org for more info.

Sunday, December 6, 12:30pm: Eliza Gilkyson

Affinity, a whole new 55+ living concept, is coming to Wells Branch

Pssst! It's not a "retirement community." You just have to be 55+ to enjoy all it has to offer



Affinity
at WELLS BRANCH

WHAT:

Apartment homes for active adults 55+

WHERE:

Affinity at Wells Branch
14508 Owen-Tech Blvd.
Austin, TX, 78728

WHEN:

Move In's Coming March 2016

AT A GLANCE:

A 55+ lifestyle apartment where rent includes all utilities, including electricity, A/C, Cable and WiFi.

WHAT YOU'LL LOVE:

You will be surrounded with opportunities for fitness and socializing, including happy hours in your own pub with friends and neighbors.

FEATURES INCLUDE:

- Studio, 1, & 2 Bedroom Apartments
- All utilities, WIFI & TV paid
- Non Smoking Community
- Indoor Heated Saltwater Pool/Spa
- Internet Café
- Fitness Center
- Community Garden, BBQ & Firepit
- Theater & Library
- Woodworking Shop & Craft Room
- Dilly Dally's Pub
- Pets Welcome*

For Leasing Information:

14508 Owen-Tech Blvd. Austin, TX, 78728

Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 5:30 pm.

Saturday 10 am - 5 pm

Sunday 12pm - 5 pm

1-844-755-6371

www.AffinityatWellsBranch.com

* Restrictions Apply

Wells Branch Garden Guild by Dianne Koehler

The Wells Branch Garden Guild meets monthly to provide speakers on topics of interest to local gardeners. We meet at the WB Annex on Wells Port the 3rd Saturday of each month at 11am. Come early to exchange plants, food, recipes and just visit. We endorse organic and non-toxic gardening methods for all kinds of gardens.

November 21, our speaker Patricia Mokry, will discuss "Companion Planting." In December, we will visit the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center (date TBA), and in January, Heather Johnson and Dianne Koehler will lead a discussion on "Rooting, propagation, seed saving and starting plants."

Garden Guild meetings are posted on the WBNA website at www.wbna.us under Upcoming Events. Find a variety of helpful articles on gardening that we've put together under the tabs Community => Gardening in Wells Branch or visit my garden blog: <http://dianne-gardening-in-wells-branch.blogspot.com/> for more information. Follow us on Facebook for updates (Just search for Wells Branch Garden Guild).

Attention Aquafit Group! by Katie Hutcheson

WB MUD offers Aquafit classes year-round M-W-F from 1-2pm at Willow Bend Pool. Water aerobic workouts are a form of fitness training that can be beneficial for people at any fitness level.

Purchase your Multiclass card through Wells Branch MUD, 512-251-9814. Please wear swim attire, bring a water bottle and towel.

If it is raining or below 55° we will not meet. Otherwise, we are there year round. See you at the pool! For more information, contact Katie Hutcheson at khutcheson@wells-branchmud.com.



Friends of the Library

NEWS by Gus Kohn, FOL President

The Friends of the Wells Branch Community Library (FOL) have had great success this past year! We've

hosted a Chocolate Appreciation Class, a Huge Community Garage Sale, Health Classes on Coping with RA and Other Autoimmune Diseases and learned how to have a Heart Healthy Diet, informational seminars on How to Successfully Protest a High Home Value Appraisal, a sensational Home Maintenance series and a very entertaining show about Audie Murphy. It's been a very busy, productive year.

Members of the FOL serve as ambassadors of the library and its programs, addressing the library's needs including financial ones. You can become an FOL member by joining today, donating your time or making a tax deductible contribution.

You can also help by using Amazon Smile for all your Amazon purchases, go to smile.amazon.com and select Friends of the Wells Branch Community Library District as your charity of choice. It costs you nothing and Amazon donates 0.5% of eligible purchases. Use Smile for every purchase!

Another funding source is Randall's Food Market; the next time you shop there ask to join the Randall's Good Neighbor Program. Just fill out a short form and enter #10298; this will link your Randall's card to our organization. Randall's will donate 1% of your purchases to the FOL.

The final presentation by Daniel White of the critically acclaimed series "Everything You Don't Know About Your House" will be held on November 29th from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the large meeting room at WBCL. Please go to <http://wbfriends.org/events/> to register. There will be a short General Meeting of the FOL membership immediately following; refreshments will be served and an election of officers will be held.

Not a member? Join the FOL at www.wbfriends.org/membership or bring your checkbook to the event!

NEW Winter Reading Program!

New Winter Reading Program at the Library! It may not be snowing in Texas, but Wells Branch Community Library is still celebrating the winter season with events & prizes to excite any reader! If you liked the library's previous winter or summer reading programs, you'll love our new online Winter Reading program. Running from November 14th through January 9th, the online reading program offers the convenience of submitting your reading logs anytime 24/7 online. Read books from our librarian-selected book lists and attend library winter programs to earn digital badges you can share with your friends! New levels and games are unlocked as you read more pages. And the fun isn't just online. Kids of all ages can earn prizes as they reach new levels, and adults can earn raffle entries for prizes any bibliophile would love! Registration for all levels is available at www.wblibrary.read-squared.com. Call the library at 512-989-3188 or visit the library website at www.wblibrary.org for more details.

Wells Branch Neighbors

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The Andy Allen Team

Wells Branch #1 Realtor



As the holiday season approaches, we'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your business and support.

*We looking forward to working with you in the coming year.
Season's Greeting from The Andy Allen Team*

*If you or anyone you know looking to buy or sell real estate
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Happy Holidays

The Andy Allen Team

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WBCC is Here to Serve by Grayson Dzialo

As always, Wells Branch Community Church is committed to being "in the community, for the community" and members are here to serve you whether it is mending a fence or helping out when financial times get tough.

Every year, WBCC community groups each find and sponsor a local family in need during the Christmas season. When a community group sponsors a family, this means that they help bring Christmas to a family who would not be able to tangibly do this themselves. The WBCC community group provides gifts, food, and a little bit of Christmas cheer for the sponsored family. Wells Branch Community Church is here for our community and would love the opportunity to help some families during this Christmas season. Obviously we cannot help everyone, but we will do our best to meet as many needs as possible as we strive to "Live For More!"

If you or someone you know is in need of a little help this holiday season, please contact us for more information at (512) 501-6343 or info@wellsbranchchurch.com

WBCC Christmas Extravaganza Craft Fair Saturday, December 5, 2015 • 9am - 3pm

Wells Branch Community Church will be hosting a Christmas Extravaganza Craft Fair Saturday, December 5 from 9am-3pm at the Live For More Center in Bratton Square at 14735 Bratton Lane (corner of Bratton Lane & Merriltown across from Wells Branch Elementary). FREE ADMISSION and over 20 vendors! Concessions and Silent Auction benefit the WBCC Youth Group "The Branch".

An Evening of Music Presented by St. Andrews

Join us for a holiday handbell concert of cross-continental carols and classics Monday, December 14 at 7:30pm at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 14311 Wells Port Drive.

The Austin Handbell Ensemble consists of fifteen members, five octaves of handbells, five and a half octaves of handchimes, coordinating tremendously, collaborating fiercely to create the smoothest, most expressive musical experience possible.

For ticket information, please visit their website at <http://www.austinhandbells.org>.

Silver Branchers Holiday Update

By Darlene Bauhs & Ron Robinder

The Silver Branchers will celebrate their final meeting of 2015 with a Christmas luncheon at the Marriott Hotel in La Frontera on Thursday, December 10, at 1pm. All seniors and significant others are welcome! Contact Darlene Bauhs at 512-252-8126 for more information on the luncheon and to RSVP.

Each Thursday, the Silver Branchers meet from 1 to 3pm at the WB Annex, 14611 Wells Port Drive. Residents 55 years and older, are welcome. For additional information call the Wells Branch MUD at 512-251-9814. Regular meetings will resume on Thursday, January 7. We hope you'll join us.





Community Calendar

Now through Dec. 16: Brown Santa Donations, WBRC
 Now through Jan. 9: Winter Reading Program at WBCL
 Nov. 23-27: PfISD & RRISD Thanksgiving Break (no school)
 Nov. 24, 6pm: Youth Fowl Shot, WBRC
 Nov. 29, 6pm: FOL's "Everything You Don't Know About Your House" Part 4, WBCL
 Nov. 29, 7:30pm: FOL General Meeting & Election, WBCL
 Dec. 5, 9am-3pm: WBCC Christmas Craft Fair, LFMC
 Dec. 5, 10am-2pm: Venture Crew Present Wrapping, WBA
 Dec. 6, 12:30pm: Open Ears Concert - Eliza Gilkyson, SA
 Dec. 6, 2-4pm: KWBB - Invasive Species Removal, KFP
 Dec. 8, 6:30pm: WB Photo Club, WBRC
 Dec. 10, 1pm: Silver Branchers Holiday Luncheon, pg. 19
 Dec. 11 & 12, 6-9pm: Luminary Fest, WBCC & KF Park
 Dec. 12, 10am-2pm: Venture Crew Present Wrapping, WBA
 Dec. 12, 4pm: Help light the luminaries, KF Park
 Dec. 13: Holiday Decorating Contest
 Dec. 14, 8am: Guided Bird Walk, Gazebo at Mills Pond
 Dec. 14, 7:30pm: Holiday Handbell Concert, SA
 Dec. 18, 6pm & 7:30pm: Polar Express Pajamarama, WBCL
 Dec. 19, 8am: Guided Bird Walk, Gazebo at Mills Pond
 Dec. 21-Jan.4: PfISD & RRISD Winter Holiday (no school)
 Jan. 7, 1-3pm: Silver Branchers meetings resume, WBA
 Jan. 9, 8am-5pm: Extreme Clean-Hazardous Waste & Bulk Trash Collection, 13905 Thermal, See page 11 for details
 Jan. 11, 8am: Guided Bird Walk, Gazebo at Mills Pond
 Jan. 12, 6:30pm: WB Photo Club, WBRC
 Jan. 16, 8am: Guided Bird Walk, Gazebo at Mills Pond
 Jan. 16, 11am: Garden Guild - See pg. 18 WBA
 Jan. 23, 6pm: Wells Branch's Got Talent, WBRC

Recurring -

Photo Club - 2nd Tues of each month, WBRC Portable
 Running Club - Tues & Thurs, 5:45-6:45am, KF Gazebo
 Walking Club - Tues & Thurs, 7am, KF Pool
 WB MUD - 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 5:30pm, WBCC

See WBNA.us for calendar details of all events

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MY WELLS BRANCH EXPERIENCE:

- Over 50 home sales here
- Represented home sales in every single subdivision
- 16-year Wells Branch resident
- Experienced helping Buyers, Sellers & Investors in Wells Branch
- Perfect 5-star online reviews

MY WELLS BRANCH LISTINGS:

- 15716 Opal Fire: Move-in ready Willow Run Beauty with laminate floors & huge open kitchen —COMING SOON
- 2305 Maple Hollow: Fantastic location near park with large yard & upgraded kitchen, \$214,900—SOLD!
- 14933 Purslane Meadow: Elegant 1-story with large open kitchen & stylish updates, \$239,900—SOLD!



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Happy Holidays and Happy New Year from your WBNA Board & Volunteers!

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Support your Neighborhood Association

by joining the WBNA and continue to make Wells Branch great!

Here is my check (made out to WBNA) for \$20 annual dues for 2015

Holiday 2015

I am: _____ renewing my membership _____ a new member

Name(s) _____ E-mail: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

I/we want to help with: _____ Newsletter Delivery _____ Crime Watch _____ July 4th

_____ Easter Egg Hunt _____ Nat'l Night Out _____ Luminary Fest

MAIL TO: WBNA Membership, 2104 Klattenhoff, Austin, TX. 78728