

## Annual WBNA Easter Egg Hunt

**Saturday, April 4, 10:30am**

**Homestead at KF Park**

Join your friends, neighbors and The Easter Bunny, himself, as Wells Branch welcomes Spring with the annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Homestead. "Hunts" will be by age group and begin at 10:30am. Come early and visit with the Easter Bunny or have fun at our craft table. Bring your basket - We hope to see you there!



## Easter Egg Hunt RULES:

Those of you who've attended our hunts in the past know we have very few rules, but we do ask parents to follow those rules and be courteous and respectful of your neighbors so that all of our children enjoy the hunt.

Age Groups:

0-3 yrs

\*Only 1 parent per child in egg hunting area

\*Watch out for potential choking hazards

4-6 yrs • 7-9 yrs • 10-12 yrs

\* No parents allowed in egg hunting area

**BE ON TIME** (early is better) AS THE "HUNTS" GO QUICKLY.

**Check all eggs for prizes.**

**Recycle your eggs with the WBNA.**



## Travis County Community Development Block Grant Program Meeting hosted by the WBNA

**Thursday, March 26, 7pm • WB Community Center**

As a neighborhood association, we're interested in how we can better serve our residents and increase community involvement from those living in our apartment communities as well as our single family homes. Wells Branch has several new apartment complexes that have opened recently or plan to open in the near future. As a group, we've been concerned about a lack of infrastructure and amenities where some of these apartments are located. We will be reaching out to the management teams for the 20+ complexes we have in our area and encouraging attendance at the upcoming CDBG meeting. We'd like for you to join us as well.

Every year, Travis County receives approximately \$997,649 in federal funds from a program called the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). CDBG program funds housing, infrastructure and social services projects for residents with low and moderate income that live in the unincorporated areas of Travis County. Residents and non-profit agencies can help determine projects by providing project ideas and proposals. Travis County Health and Human Services will explain the CDBG program and provide our community paper copies of the Participation Form so that we may provide our comments and ideas to the Commissioners Court by March 31st.

Residents will have the opportunity to learn more about the program, present community needs and recommend projects for CDBG funds at the meeting. Please make time to attend.

To learn more about CDBG, take the survey online, or suggest a project, visit [www.co.travis.tx.us/CDBG](http://www.co.travis.tx.us/CDBG)

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## SEE INSERT FOR DETAILS ON:

- **Extreme Clean - Hazardous Waste & Recycling – April 11**
- **Wells Branch Eco Fair – May 9**

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**Pam Wachholz**, 20+ years WB resident

The Christopher Stapleton Team

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## 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, through flyers, 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](mailto:silentauction@wbna.us). Thank you in advance for helping to make (and keep) Wells Branch GREAT!

## Dog Fair

**Saturday, March 28 • 10am-1pm • KF Park**

Calling all dogs! Wells Branch MUD will hold its annual Dog Fair the last Saturday in March and you're invited! Come and visit the many booths occupied by local veterinarians and other pet-oriented companies. Enroll your pooch to win prizes in one of the various free and fun competitions including Best Trick, Fastest Dog, Best Dressed, Dog & Owner Look-A-Like and our prestigious Wells Branch King and Queen contest. All dogs must be on a leash and under owner's control at all times and must be current on their vaccinations. No aggressive dogs please.



**New this year, Austin Animal Center will be offering FREE Pet ID tags and Animal Trustees of Austin will be on-site with \$25 micro-chipping available! Chipping will be in the courtyard by the Community Center. All pets must be leashed or crated.**



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## Fire Station Set for Remodel to Enhance Services

Remodeling the fire station at 15300 Bratton Lane is one of the initiatives outlined in Travis County ESD. No 2/Pflugerville Fire Department's strategic plan. Construction is slated to begin in the Spring of 2015 and it is anticipated to take 4 months to complete. The station will remain completely operational without any disruption in ability to respond to emergency calls.

The station, built in 1999, was designed to house one company responsible for responding to emergency calls within the district west of Interstate 35. According to the census bureau



the population in the Wells Branch area has nearly doubled in the last 15 years and continues to grow. The Department's call volume out of this station has increased by 107% since 2006. This station represents about 30% of the current District's call volume. The District responded to almost 8,000 calls in calendar 2014, which represents an overall increase in call volume of 60% District wide since 2006. "When we evaluated the needs to support the increased calls out of this station, it was more cost effective to expand the current station at this time than to build another station," said Assistant Chief Kevin Croegaert.

The remodel of the station is part of the Department's commitment to expanding services. In 2014, nine first responders trained and prepared for paramedic level certification. The remodel will allow for additional response capabilities housing an aerial, an additional engine, or an additional squad comprised of an EMT-Basic and a Paramedic at the station and to emergency medical calls.

### Equipment and Safety Improvements

Included in the remodel plan is upgrading to 24-hour power generation. In the event the main power source is disrupted, the generator will prevent a power outage at the station; thereby, enabling personnel to continue their ability to respond to emergency calls.

The safety of the community as well as the safety of firefighters remains a priority for the Department. The station improvements will include space for a Health and Fire Safety Officer position. Among other duties, the Safety Officer monitors conditions and hazards associated with the emergency



call such as the weather, building, vehicle and patient. On a different side of safety, clothing worn by first responders must be properly cleaned to ensure that contaminants do not remain on the clothing potentially

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resulting in health issues. A high capacity washer/extractor designed specifically to remove contaminants will be added to this station with the remodel.

### Continuing to Serve

This year the Fire Department marks sixty (60) years of service to the community. The values established in 1955 remain: professionalism, integrity, compassion, honor, bravery and dedication to serve. Reflecting those values, the Department is dedicated to pursuing excellence in serving the citizens and continuing as a financially stable organization that delivers a superior level of traditional and innovative emergency and non-emergency services. We invite you to learn more about your fire department and our 60th celebration at [www.pflugervillefire.org](http://www.pflugervillefire.org).



## Monarchs, Milkweed, & Wells Branch

### *The plight of the Monarchs, milkweed, and how we all can help:*

by Betsey Harper and Shelley Palmer

Various environmental and scientific groups have requested that the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service protect the Monarch butterfly and list it as a threatened species, pointing to a dramatic population decline over the last 20 years. These groups list milkweed habitat loss as a major reason for the decline in Monarch populations. Monarchs rely heavily on the milkweed as a host plant. Females lay eggs on the leaves of the plant, and the young caterpillars feed on it. The diet makes the caterpillars and the adults toxic and bitter tasting to predators such as birds.

How YOU can help - Milkweed is incredibly hard to grow from seed. We've had much better results with native milkweed "plugs" available through Monarch Watch <http://www.monarchwatch.org/>. Order now so they arrive as early in spring as possible. Texas orders ship in late April or early May. Order Green Milkweed (*Asclepias viridis*), the most common milkweed in Texas or Antelope Horns (*Asclepias asperula*) which gets its name from the seed pods that look similar to the horns of an antelope.



Photos by Rob White

If EACH of US plant some native milkweed in our gardens, we can help to ensure that the beautiful Monarchs continue their long trip through Texas every year.

## Yard Waste Reminders

To participate in the curbside yard waste recycling, please place clippings in open containers (round black tubs) or the recyclable brown paper bags available for purchase at home stores. TexaScapes will not pick up grass cuttings or leaves in plastic bags. Branches should be cut in 6ft lengths and bundled together.

As the weather gets warmer, this type of recycling increases dramatically. Clippings should be placed curbside by 7am Monday morning. Some weeks, it may take TexaScapes two or three days to collect all the clippings throughout the neighborhood so please be patient.

### Free Mulch

As a courtesy to residents, the WB MUD provides free mulch for pick-up at the Rec. Center on Shoreline. Please check in at the desk before loading your vehicle and limit yourself to four of the "Green Gold" containers (black tubs) so that all residents may have the opportunity to utilize this service.

## Wells Branch Community Church Cares

Wells Branch Community Church exists to be "in the community, for the community." We want to be involved in the joys of Wells Branch by supporting community events, as well as in the sorrows by meeting the needs of our neighbors.

If you know of anyone who is a neighbor in need or going through a difficult financial time, please do not hesitate to contact us at 512-501-6343 or at [info@wellsbranchchurch.com](mailto:info@wellsbranchchurch.com).

## Birding in Wells Branch

by Wanda Holcombe

Spring is popping out all over and migration will soon begin. Join the WB Birding Group on our WB Bird Walks held twice a month as we bid farewell to our exiting winter water fowl and welcome all our new spring visitors.

### WB Birding Calendar

#### Guided Bird Walk Dates

*All walks begin at 8am at the Mills Pond Gazebo*

**Monday, April 6** • Sharon Richardson, Host

*(change from previously scheduled on 2nd Monday)*

**Saturday, April 18** • Heather Johnson, Host

**Monday, May 11** • Sharon Richardson, Host

**Saturday, May 16** • Heather Johnson, Host

#### Travis Audubon Society Bird Classes

*WB Community Library, Thursday, 6-7:30pm*

**March 26** • *Hawks of Central Texas* with Byron Stone

**April 23** • *Owls of Central Texas* with Jane Tillman

**May 28** • *Hummingbirds of Central TX* with Shelia Hargis

## Nature Viewing Station becomes even more environmentally friendly

by Wanda Holcombe

Eight dedicated nature lovers gathered on the last pretty day of February before ice and freezing temperatures brought the month to a close. It was a beautiful afternoon for planting over 40 native plants, and the use of one yard of compost & three yards of mulch. All focused on what is bird, animal and insect friendly and supportive.



Thanks to Austin Native Plant Society of Texas who donated \$100, TexaScapes, WB MUD Board & Office/Maintenance Staff and all the Wells Branch individuals who donated plants, funds, and energy towards the development of the Nature Viewing Station as a place for all who visit the Mills Pond Park area of Wells Branch to enjoy. The Nature Viewing Station serves as a model of what can be planted in home yards to be "nature friendly" and support the care of the environment by planting native plants and using organic planting materials.

Our next planting is planned for March when the trees donated from **Tree Folks** arrive; more "spring" plants will be purchased and planted at that time. Watch for a site design plan of the NVS citing plants and tree species and locations.

***TREAT yourself to a wondrous visit to the Nature Viewing Station in Wells Branch at the Mills Pond area and watch it grow and care for nature...***

***From the parking lot area at Mills Pond, take the walking trail to your left and look to right side for the NVS sign... take a seat and "quietly" let nature's show unfold....***



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## Silver Branchers

By Darlene Bauhs & Ron Robinder



Photo courtesy of Jim Farmer

We are an active group of seniors who gather for an afternoon of fun and laughter each week. We play many games, currently a dice game and Mexican Train dominos, and enjoy each other's company. Each Thursday, the Silver Branchers meet from 1- 3pm at

the WB Recreation Center on Shoreline Drive with occasional day trips and guest speakers. Residents 55 years and older are welcome.

On February 16, the Silver Branchers, together with the WB Birding Group, traveled to Pedernales Falls State Park for birding and then on to Johnson City for a tour of President Johnson's boyhood home and lunch. We had a glorious time!

On March 12, we toured Longhorn Caverns and enjoyed lunch at a restaurant overlooking Inks Lake.

A trip to Gruene is scheduled for April 9. Look forward to shopping, lunch and fun in no particular order.

Our last trip of the season will be on Thursday, May 14 to Pioneer Farms. Lunch is still being planned.

For additional information or to sign up for one of the day trips, call the Wells Branch Rec. Center at 512-251-9814.

## Elected Officials Reception

On February 26, the WBNA hosted a reception for our newly elected local officials. In attendance were State Representative Celia Israel and our Travis County officials from Pct. 2: Commissioner Brigid Shea, Justice of the Peace, Judge Randall Slagle, and Constable Adan Ballesteros.

All have new and exciting plans and goals that could potentially affect Wells Branch. We're honored that they took the time to come out and meet with us and look forward to meeting with Representative Israel again after the legislative session is over. The MUD Board Safety Committee and WBNA will be meeting with Commissioner Shea on April 2 to discuss traffic issues in Wells Branch.

## Keep WB Beautiful Trash Off

**Saturday, April 11 • 10am-1pm • 14611 Wells Port**

Cleanup efforts will be from 10 am through 1 pm. Meet at the MUD Annex, 14611 Wells Port Drive. Volunteers from local neighborhood associations, civic organizations, businesses, industries, scout troops, youth groups, church groups, and other community organizations, as well as individual citizens, are welcome to participate. The Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off is part of the partnership between Keep Texas Beautiful and the Texas Department of Transportation. Participants will receive trash bags, volunteer giveaways, promotional items and more. Questions? Contact Katie Hutcheson at khutcheson@wellsbranchmud.com.



## Project Graduation for Wells Branch Seniors By Pam Wachholz, WBNA Editor & CRHS PG Venue Chair

Project Graduation is a nationally recognized alcohol and drug free party designed to give high school graduates a safe alternative for celebrating their special night. Statistics have shown that students celebrating on the evening of graduation can experience one of the most dangerous nights of their young lives. We hope you will support these nonprofit, parent-led groups who are working so hard for our Wells Branch seniors. All donations are tax-deductible!

### **Cedar Ridge High School • Project Graduation**

This is the last year that Wells Branch has Seniors at CRHS-so please support this group of kids and send them off with a night of great fun! The fundraising goal for our committee of parent volunteers is running about \$30,000 short. Our goal is set high to allow all of our graduates the opportunity to attend the Main Event party FREE, and then to give out great doorprizes to help the students as they begin a new chapter in their lives. We are about \$35,000 short of our overall goal - but - our biggest FUNdraisers are coming up so mark your calendars and plan on a good time while you support a safe night of celebration for our graduating seniors!

**NOW! TX Roadhouse Dinner Roll Dough Sale:** Just in time for Easter, graduation and any other reason for a celebratory meal! Order the famous TX Roadhouse dinner roll dough & cinnamon honey butter through **March 24**. TRH is just across the highway, making **pick up on March 31**, 4-7pm a breeze for WB residents! The dough comes frozen as individual rolls, you thaw out what you need and bake to serve these hot and fresh! Download an order form\* or request one from Pam at [pkwachholz@gmail.com](mailto:pkwachholz@gmail.com). You can mail in your orders or contact Pam for a drop off location for orders and checks.

**March 28 - 5k Paint Run & Raider Fest** includes the **Smoke on the Ridge BBQ Cookout and Festival** and will be held at Old Settler's Park. Sign up for the Paint Run at [active.com](http://active.com) ALL levels are invited to participate. Then join us for a day of good BBQ, live music, fishing at the lake and children's activities (including bounce house and face-painting). It will be a fantastic day of family fun-benefitting Project Grad!

**April 18-Golf Tournament and \$5,000 Putting Contest-** Forest Creek Country Club-love to play golf? Good putter? Join us-you may be the lucky \$5,000 putting contest winner!

**April 18-3rd annual Raider Fashion Show-**See students as they model the latest in prom attire and bid on some great silent auction items!

**Order your Legacy Brick today!** Honor your current (or previous) Senior with a brick that will be installed on the campus Legacy Walk. For information on Legacy Bricks and **all of our events and fundraisers**, \*please see our website: **CRHSProjectGraduation.org**.

Monetary donations may be mailed to CRHS Project Grad Class of 2015, PO Box 5622, Round Rock, TX 78683-5622 or may be made online (ABOVE). "LIKE" and follow us on Facebook & Twitter. Thanks for supporting the Cedar Ridge Class of 2015!!



*Debby got FLOCKED courtesy of Connally HS Project Grad!*

### **Connally High School • Cougar Celebration 2015**

Our Mardi Gras themed reverse raffle dinner and silent auction was a huge success! Thank you to all who participated!

**Goodwill Collection** - On April 11, Cougar Celebration will host a collection for Goodwill at the Extreme Clean Hazardous Waste Event. Pick up will be at 4:30pm, but you may drop your items off any time during the day. Clean out those closets and the garage and bring all your goodies to the MUD Maintenance Yard, 13905 Thermal Drive and help us fill that 26ft. truck! In return, Goodwill will make a donation to Project Graduation.

**Capital Comedy Club** - Capital Comedy Club is coming to Wells Branch to sponsor a family friendly show to raise money for Project Graduation! Date is TBD!! Watch the Google Group and WBNA Facebook page for updates.

**Scrapbooking Event-**Come enjoy a FULL DAY of Scrapbooking benefiting Project Graduation. We would like to invite you to come join us on May 2, 2015 from 8am-6pm at the Connally High School Cafeteria. Your \$30 ticket price will include generous table space, complimentary snacks and beverages, lunch at Noon, a chance to win fabulous door prizes, contest & tons of fun! We will have at least a 100 spaces available. We are also planning on some vendors being there. WHAT A PACKAGE!!!!

**Flock a Friend!** This is a great fundraiser for an even greater cause! What could possibly bring more JOY than opening your door to a yard full of pink flamingos?!

We event have a flamingo with a graduation cap if anyone wants to celebrate their child being accepted into a college! Flocking is perfect for birthdays, anniversaries, game days or just for fun! They're happy to personalize your message and even have some specialty flamingos (just ask).

Cost is only \$25 and checks can be made out to CC2015. Flamingos will roost in their yards for 24-48 hours. Reserve your date before it's booked. Share this joy with your friends-if you're interested in "Flocking a Friend", contact Mary Hale at [mjhale@austin.rr.com](mailto:mjhale@austin.rr.com) or 512-789-3903.

### **McNeil High School • Project Graduation 2015**

McNeil High School Project Graduation is offering flocking as a fundraiser. You can pay to place these pink darlings in your friend's yard. The flocking is done in good spirits and is not meant to be mean. The Flamingos will roost in the lawn of your choosing for no more than 24 hours when they will mysteriously migrate to another friend's (victim's) lawn.

To order a flocking, visit <http://mcneilprojectgrad.ch2v.com/>

You can also support MHS Project Grad when you shop Go to the MHS-PG website (above) which features a store and a link to AmazonSmile where 0.5% of eligible purchases are donated to McNeil HS Project Graduation.

## Solarize Wells Branch! by Stephen Hochstetler



Would you like to live greener by having your house to be more energy self-sufficient? Would you like to reduce your energy bill? You can do both at the same time! Both of these will be the result for anyone who participates in the "solarize" group purchase of a rooftop solar photovoltaic (PV) system.

In January a panel of homeowners selected Lighthouse Solar as the winning vendor from the 7 companies that responded to our request-for-proposal.

What is the financial benefit? The panels have a performance warranty for 25 years and you can expect a financial break-even in approximately 7 years. This gives you 18 years of electricity after the system has paid for itself.

The 2014/2015 Solarize WB Project enrollment is **OPEN** for Wells Branch residents and neighboring communities.

There are several reasons that NOW is a great time to explore to see if your roof has the space and sunlight for solar panels.

- 1 - TAX BREAK - The 30% Federal tax credit exists in 2015 and 2016. In 2017 the tax credit is reduced to 10%.
- 2 - REBATE - The rebate from Austin Energy or ONCOR and also total budget and \$\$ per watt goes down each year. By purchasing the system this year you maximize the possible rebate your utility company will pay you.
- 3 - EDUCATION - You can take advantage of the solarize education and people available to answer questions so that you can make your best informed choice.
- 4 - FINANCING - If your budget does not allow for an outright purchase of system, there is zero-down financing where the monthly payment is less than your current electric bill.

The solarize vendor has run three group design sessions where each homeowner walks away with a proposal and an appointment for a roof measurement/assessment.

**Interested? Great! There is a three part process.**

### 1-Enrollment and education. NO COMMITMENT REQUIRED.

Go to <http://wellsbranchsolar.blogspot.com/p/timeline.html> and sign up. You will get invited to the next group design workshop by expressing interest in a solar PV system.

### 2-Design Workshop. STILL NO FINANCIAL COMMITMENT.

Bring an electric bill to the design workshop to determine your annual usage. Your roof will be virtually assessed and your goals listened to. You can choose what size solar PV system you want to install and the vendor will look to see if you have roof space with sunshine. You will get a proposal from vendor and also an appointment to do an onsite evaluation to validate the proposal. Roof measurement, pitch, alignment, condition and electrical boxes are items reviewed onsite.

**3-Installation.** After evaluation a contract is sent to the homeowner for signature and financial commitment begins.

Please visit <http://wellsbranchsolar.blogspot.com/> for additional information or email [solarizewb@gmail.com](mailto:solarizewb@gmail.com). We will extend the enrollment past March 15, but expect to end enrollment no later than April 15.



**Carmina Eaton, Agent**  
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### Wells Branch Eco Fair

Saturday, May 9 • 1-4pm

WB Rec Center • 3000 Shoreline Drive

Learn about water conservation, alternative energies and healthy practices for your yard, your home and your family at the Wells Branch Eco Fair. Held at the WB Recreation Center from 1-4pm, the event is free and will feature information and tips from industry experts and your knowledgeable neighbors, as well as educational fun for the kids. See insert for more info.

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## 3rd Annual WB Disc Golf Tournament

Saturday, May 9 • 9am-4pm

The tournament will be held May 9 from 9am-4pm and will have divisions for a variety of skill levels. Each player will receive a custom artwork disc golf disc as part of their registration. There will be door prizes as well as awards for winners of each division. The course is located south of Wells Branch Parkway and parking is available along the street on Owen Tech Blvd. across from Whataburger. A course map and scorecard are available at [www.wellsbranchmud.com/discgolf](http://www.wellsbranchmud.com/discgolf). Save \$5 by preregistering ahead of the event at the WB Recreation Center, located at 3000 Shoreline Drive. You may also call to preregister at 512-251-9814. Fee: \$10 before tournament; \$15 day of event.

## WB Disc Golf Club hosts 15th Annual Waterloo "Ice Bowl"

by Brian Litke, WB Disc Golf Club

110 disc golf players and 10 staff participated in the 15th annual Waterloo "Ice Bowl" on January 31 at the WB disc golf course. Each winter, Ice Bowl events are held across the U.S. by disc golf clubs to help fight hunger by collecting food and money to donate to those in need. The Austin-based Waterloo Disc Golf Club partnered with the Wells Branch Disc Golf Club to coordinate the event, which raised \$1,050 and over 400 lbs. of food for the Capital Area Food Bank. Of that amount, 94 lbs. of food and \$525 were donated directly to WB's local pantry at St. Andrew's as a thank you to the community for hosting the event. Thank you to all the participants!

## Keeping WB Beautiful during It's My Park Day

by Brian Litke, It's My Park Day project leader

36 volunteers and WB MUD employees Katie Hutcheson, Emmanuel Ledezma, and Abraham Gonzales helped 'Keep Wells Branch Beautiful' on Saturday, March 7, 2015 by taking part in the Austin Parks Foundation (APF) event, 'It's My Park Day.' Participants included families, girl scouts and cub scouts who helped clean up the park by picking up litter. Other volunteers mulched existing trees with 20 cubic yards of free mulch from APF and planted eight drought tolerant trees including Live Oak, Chinkapin Oak, Chitalpa (Cross between a Catalpa and a Desert Willow), Flameleaf Sumac, Anacacho Orchid Tree, and Possumhaw Holly. Thank you to the WB MUD staff for using equipment to distribute the mulch to locations where volunteers raked the mulch into place around trees.



A special thank you to:

- The volunteers for working hard!
- The WB MUD Board and staff for supporting and improving our park system
- Austin Parks Foundation for 20 cubic yards of free mulch
- Wheatsville COOP and KIND bars for sponsoring snacks for the event
- The WB Disc Golf Club for purchasing the \$488 worth of trees planted at the event



## New Digs For WB Vision Care by Gus Kohn

Wells Branch Vision Care has been a part of Wells Branch for 23 years with Dr. Derek Hamilton serving our neighborhood for the last 6 years at his former office at 2013 Wells Branch Pkwy (Surrender and WB Pkwy). He recently expanded his practice and he and Dr. Lacey Smith Thames have moved into an almost twice larger space at 3407 Wells Branch Pkwy (1325 and WB Pkwy, between Jumpoline and Pizza Hut).



The new office features energy efficient lighting, carpet and hardwood floors with wood and stone finishes. They offer an optical shop that is double in size with a

much greater selection of frames as well as more exam rooms to accommodate patients and their comprehensive practice. Dr. Emily Simonek, an Optometrist from a prominent practice in downtown Austin for the past five years, has joined Wells Branch Vision Care as well.

Dr. Hamilton tells me that his focus is helping people; he is dedicated to Wells Branch and sees most of his patients from right here in the WB. He wants you to know that his shiny new office represents the quality of care they are offering without price increases or shortcuts; with a finer touch. He is very invested in our community and wants to remain a part of Wells Branch for many more years to come. See their ad on page 2.



**Editor's Note:** As long-time patients, my family and I have had a fabulous experience with WBVC since moving to Wells Branch in 1994. Dr. Hamilton's friendly, professional team is dedicated to truly serving their patients. —Pam Wachholz

## Spring Youth Fishing Tournament

**Saturday, May 2 • 9am-Noon • Mills Pond**

Wells Branch MUD hosts its spring youth fishing tournament for ages 17 and under from 9 a.m. to noon at Mills Pond. Enrollment into the tournament is free for all youth, with trophies and prizes being awarded at the end. A rod and reel will be provided for those anglers who would like to borrow one. All state fishing regulations apply.



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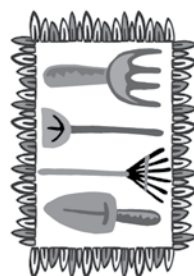
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## Garden Guild News

by Dianne Koehler

**March 21**, Julie Gaydos, a student of herbal medicine will be on hand to talk about medicinal herbs and uses including teas, infusions and more.

**April 18**, a field trip to Green & Growing in Pflugerville is planned to learn about the "critter friendly" plants they carry. So whether you want to encourage bird, butterflies or bees (or cats), they have just the right plants for us to see.

**May 16**, join us at 9 am to sneak a peek behind the fences and see some of the best and most interesting gardens in Wells Branch. Take a look at how neighbors are planting to create an oasis in the shade or a sunny paradise. We visit both vegetable and flower gardens and take away great ideas. If you'd like to have your garden included on the tour contact us on Facebook (Wells Branch Garden Guild) or email [dianne.koehler51@gmail.com](mailto:dianne.koehler51@gmail.com).

Unless otherwise noted, Garden Guild meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of each month at the WB MUD Recreation center, 3000 Shoreline at 11am. Come early to chat, exchange items and samples. Join our Facebook group for updates, questions, answers and sharing our love of gardening. Whether your passion is vegetables or posies, all are welcome!

## SEE PAGE 20 and Join YOUR Neighborhood Association TODAY!

Your support allows WBNA to continue:

- |   |  |                      |                   |
|---|--|----------------------|-------------------|
| • Neighborhood News                     | • Easter Egg Hunt                        | • National Night Out | • Safety Seminars |
| • Luminary Fest Friday Night Activities | • Crime Watch Block/Area Setup & Support | • AND MORE!          |                   |



15001 Wells Port Drive  
Ph#: 989-3188  
<http://www.wblibrary.org>  
Mon -Thurs 10am-8pm  
Fri - Sat 10am-6pm  
Sun 1pm-6pm

Enlighten, Enrich, Entertain

The library will open at 1pm on Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup> to accommodate the annual neighborhood garage sale. We will be closed on Thursday April 30<sup>th</sup> for inventory.

**Semellitas de Español** – Mar 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 & 11:15am -  
Learn Spanish vocabulary through songs and play!

**April 10<sup>th</sup> is DEAR Day, Drop Everything And Read!**  
Special songs and stories with Kim Lehman at 10:30 and 11:15am. Drop-in storytimes from 1pm to 4pm. There are no public computers available on DEAR day.



**Improv with Move Your Tail Kids** – April 25<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.  
Kids help create and direct the show by suggesting what happens next or coming on-stage as characters. Hilarity will ensue. Ages 5+. \*Register online\*

**American Girl Tea Party** – May 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm.



Join us for a celebration of the American Girl books as we enjoy tea with our dolls and learn about American history through fun activities. Ages 5+. \*Register online\*

### Regular Youth Programs and Storytimes

**Baby Bookworms** (0-18 mos.)- Mon at 10:30am  
**Baby Bookworms** (12-24 mos.)- Mon at 11:15am  
**Storytime & Craft\*\*** - TIME CHANGE - Tues at 6:30pm  
**Arts & Crafts\*\*** -Wed at 6pm  
**Toddler Storytime** - Fri at 10:30am  
**Preschool Storytime** - Fri at 11:15am  
**Saturday Storytime (all ages)** - Sat at 11am  
(Vietnamese on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sat of each month)  
**Bow Wow Reading Dogs** (ages 5+) – Sat by apt  
**American Girl Book Club** (age 5+) 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mon at 3:30pm  
**Lego Lab** (age 5+) 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mon at 3:30pm  
\*\*free tickets available 30 minutes before program

**SPARK Homeschool Group:** This open group for supporting ages 2-10 meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month.

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

\*Register for programs at [wblibrary.eventbrite.com](http://wblibrary.eventbrite.com)\*

### Birdwatching in Central Texas Series with the Travis Audubon Society



Mar 26 at 6pm – Hawks  
April 23 at 6pm – Owls  
May 28 at 6pm - Hummingbirds

### Money Smart Workshops \*Register online\*

Control Your Retirement Income 4/16 at 6:30pm  
Raising Money-Smart Kids 4/25 at noon  
Understanding Credit and Loans 5/23 at 11am  
Managing Long-term & Chronic Care Costs 5/14 at 6:30pm



### Get a (better) job! \*Register online\*

Apr 11 at 10:30am - **Resume Makeover** –  
Tailor your resume to catch an employer's eye.  
May 16 at 12:30pm - **Interview Workshop** –  
Practice and tips to make a great impression.



### Regular Programs for Adults

**Morning Yoga** - Select Thurs at 10:30am. Relax with our free classes for all levels. 4/2, 4/16, 5/7 & 5/21

**Writer's Guild**- 1<sup>st</sup> Wed of each month at 6:30pm. Connect with local authors and get feedback. 4/1 & 5/6

**English Conversation Group** – Select Saturdays 10:30am-12:30pm. All skill levels are welcome! 4/4, 4/11, 5/2 & 5/16

**Knit & Crochet Group** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs of each month at 6:30pm. Needles, yarn and instruction are provided. 4/16 & 5/21

### Adult Book Clubs

**Steamy Reads:** 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6pm:  
Discuss a steamy romance over a steamy coffee/tea/cocoa and sweets.



Apr 1- *Succubus Blues* by Richelle Mead  
May 6- *The Dom who Loved Me* by Lexi Blake

**Clueless Mysteries:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month at 3pm: Solve the mystery with us.

Apr 19 - *Widow's Tears* by Susan Albert

May 17 - *Cocaine Blues* by Kerry Greenwood



**Wine, Women and Words:** Newcomers are always welcome at 7pm on the first Thursday of the month.

Apr 2- *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Coast Trail* by Cheryl Strayed

May 7- *Sonya Sotomayor: The True American Dream*, by Antonia Felix



### Adult Computer Classes

Take charge of the digital domain! \*Registration required\*

3/28 @ 10:30am - Microsoft Word - Beyond the Basics

4/12 @ 3pm – Computers for Beginners

4/25 @ 10:30am – Excel Basics

4/26 @ 3pm – Microsoft Word for Beginners

5/9 @ 10:30am - Microsoft Word - Beyond the Basics

5/10 @ 3pm - Excel for Beginners



## Wells Branch Special Interest Groups

### Walking Club

Come out and meet your neighbors! WB Walking Club meets in front of KF Pool on Tuesdays & Thursdays at 9am and utilizes the Wells Branch MUD trails. Some walk for thirty minutes, others for an hour at a very nice walking pace. The weather is mild and the trails are bursting with spring blossoms; it's a perfect time to start walking! Questions? Contact Katie Hutcheson at [khutcheson@wellsbranchmud.com](mailto:khutcheson@wellsbranchmud.com).

### Running Club by Russell Jones

Spring has sprung! Join us for a run! 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. 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. Come join us on a Run! [www.wbrunclub.com](http://www.wbrunclub.com)  
Call, Text, or E-mail: [Russell@wbrunclub.com](mailto:Russell@wbrunclub.com) • 512-825-2369

### Wells Branch Photo Club by Margaret Sufke

The WB Photo club is going strong. Recent educational topics have included a GREAT presentation on composition and two sessions around the use of editing tools and techniques. We've also spent valuable time reviewing images and gaining real insight into what makes a good photo even better.

This is a talented group--and we continue to welcome new members. Don't let your skill level or type of camera you use get in the way--anyone interested in the hobby is welcome.

We are currently working on ideas for upcoming "field trips" for the club. A trip to the Blanton Art museum is planned. Starting in mid-March the museum will host the Harry Ransom photography collection. Look for more to come on these programs on the WB Google group and the neighborhood association website: [wbna.us](http://wbna.us).

We meet the second Tuesday of the month from 6:30-8:30pm at the WB Rec Center, 3000 Shoreline, room 1.  
Contact Margaret Sufke via email [mmsufke@gmail.com](mailto:mmsufke@gmail.com) or by calling 512-341-0428.

### WB Entrepreneurial Networking Group by Traci Synatschk

Are you a small business owner looking to grow your business in 2015? We are an entrepreneurial group of business owners looking to grow our businesses with others that understand the power of networking and word of mouth referrals. This group is dedicated to creating a village of highly networked, social, and motivated professionals that understand that *giving is the key to receiving* in any relationship.

We meet monthly for an in-person breakfast and training meeting, and network in a private Facebook Group throughout the rest of the month. If you are interested, email [tracisyn@gmail.com](mailto:tracisyn@gmail.com) or [mentoringmomprenuers@gmail.com](mailto:mentoringmomprenuers@gmail.com).

We are excited about this new opportunity to get together and grow our businesses in 2015. We hope you can join us!

## Wells Branch Home Values Increased 16% Last Year!

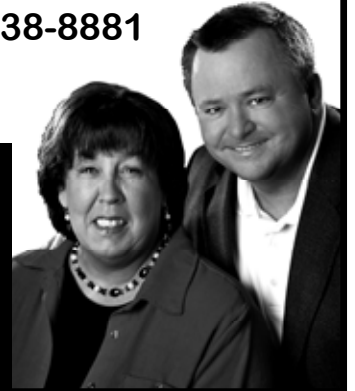
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## KUDOS!

Y'all were incredible! Thank you for taking time out of your weekend to volunteer! Your efforts in helping build and maintain our community spirit are very much appreciated!

Dan Barnekow · Colton, Brady & Winston Bennett · Emily Berver · Abigail & Porter Best · Shannon & Durbin Black · Linda Bilstein · Kathy Brown · Karen Buerkle · Creola Burns · Kathleen Clark · Kim Clark · Chris & Alex Connell · Miriam, Melissa & Briana Garate\* · Susie Gillespie · Carla Gordon · Cynthia Hannon · Travers Hough · Bruce Jones · Jennifer Jones · Gus Kohn · Sherrie Lindig · Brian Litke · Erik & Honor Macdanz · Siv, Jyoti & Arjuna Manda · Jane Marawar · Joan & Dave Mead\* · Arlie Pfeifer · Sharon Richardson · Ron Robinder · Marisa, Mischa & Tasha Sawatphadungkij · Julie Schwartz · Alice Sears · Virgil Smith · Mona & Gayle Speranza · Debby Thompson · Jill & J.R. Traffanstedt · Daniel White\* · Cindy Zraik

\*Delivered more than one section

Also, thank you to all of you who take the time to send in articles about your children's schools or the community service groups you're involved in. Your contributions strengthen our community! Keep 'em coming!

If you would like to deliver the newsletter, please contact our distribution team at [info@wbna.us](mailto:info@wbna.us) or 512-656-0654. We'll bring the newsletters over to you along with a map of the delivery area. If you've never done this before, it takes about 45 minutes to an hour. We always try to match up everyone with the area they live in. Sometimes there's a lot of response for one area and none for other areas. If so, we try to "get you close". Or, if you'd like to see other parts of Wells Branch, let us know and we'll gladly find a section for you.

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**FREE**

Choice of Chicken, Beef, Pork, Shrimp or Four Seasons Fried Rice with minimum \$40 purchase.

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Expires 7-31-15

## WBE Farmer's Market by Dianne Koehler

The 5th grade farmer's market at Wells Branch Elementary has far exceeded our expectations even with the winter COLD. The beds are full of lush plants and the kids are learning how to run every facet of it. We will post weekly to the Google Group and Wells Branch Facebook pages if the market is on or not due to weather conditions and testing schedules but most weeks we'll offer fresh ORGANIC produce on Wednesdays at 2:30pm (until gone) at the corner of Merriltown and Town Hill. Bags are generally \$1 each. We will have plants for sale this spring as well. All items are grown and harvested by the students. We do take orders for late pick-up too.

## WBE Go Green Team News by Tara Fisher-Muñoz

We have some very exciting news to share from the Go Green Team at Wells Branch Elementary. We are partnering with the UT Enactus Group to build a community garden at WBE and collaborating with the WB MUD to install drip irrigation to the garden beds. If all goes as planned, we will have the community garden ready before the end of this school year! The vision for this garden is that it grows to serve our local community by providing a safe place for children and their families to grow their own healthy food. This will not only be a learning opportunity for the elementary students, but also a time for family bonding. To learn more about the amazing benefits of community gardens, go to this link: <http://tinyurl.com/knjrjfr>

**See event photos on the WBNA Facebook page from**

**Valentine's Day Dance, Ice Bowl, Spring Break Camps and more!**



## Northwest Elementary News

by Betsey Harper, PTO Co-President

It is finally Spring! It's true...no more ice, no more cold air, lots of sunshine and plenty of great warm weather to keep us all happy. And happy active kids are healthy kids. Mounting scientific research indicates that kids need more "outside" play time and less "electronic" time. Scientists are now beginning to tease out the effects of all this electronic engagement. Too much screen time can make kids less active, less communicative, and distance themselves from family. There is also links to an increased incidence of risky behaviors, and more social network activity seems to correspond to mood problems among kids. The average American student spends more than five hours a day looking at a screen of some kind. But there's good news, too. Moderate electronic usage may be associated with the development of some cognitive and social skills.

Some experts suggest establishing tech-free zones at family times and in the places you do control: No cell phones, handheld gaming devices, or TVs during homework or dinner (that goes for parents as well). Another suggestion is nothing that blinks or beeps in kids' bedrooms at night — collect electronic devices an hour before bed; return them in the A.M. This will insure a good night's rest away from temptations.

As far as upcoming events at Northwest, check on our school calendar, marquee, listserv, Facebook, and in your children's folders for details on Movie Nights, PTO Meeting (2nd Monday of the month), Grade Level Spring Music Performances and much more!

## Athlos Leadership Academy by Traci Synatschk

Enrollment Update: We've held our lottery for the 2015-2016 school year and are looking forward to 120 new kinder students with over 50 on the waiting list as of today. Pre-K is full at this point with a waiting list as well. First grade only has a couple of spots left so anyone interested should apply quickly for a 1st grade spot. All other grades are filling also, but openings do still exist.

We will add one additional kinder class and one additional 1st grade class in 2015 -2016. (This totals six sections of each. ) Also, we will add 10th grade at the Athlos campus next year.

**IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT:** We are actively searching for a medical aide for the 2nd-9th grade campus at this time. The position is a full-time position and will also be available next year. We would like someone who is possibly a certified CNA, possibly an LVN, or a medically trained assistant. Anyone interested should contact Sally Irvine at 512-872-8440.

Spring Fine Arts Festival is coming up in May and the public is welcome to visit our school to admire the works of our many gifted artists at Athlos Leadership Academy. Visitors will be able to bid on student artwork and enjoy a musical provided by our choir and musicians. The event is scheduled for May 15th and the doors will open at 5:30 p.m. The festival will take place at the gym next to the WBLA campus.



## 10th Annual WBE Spring Festival



Saturday • April 11 • 2-6pm

Wells Branch Elementary (WBE) School will hold its 10th Annual Spring Festival, Saturday, April 11, 2015 from 2-6pm on the WBE campus. Mark your calendar and plan

on attending with your family, friends and neighbors. This will be a fun and memorable event to spend with your community while raising money for WBE! Tickets will go on sale the week of April 6th at the school and will be available for purchase at the event. Some of the things you can expect are:

- Silent Auction • Moonwalks • Dunking Booth
- Human Hamster Ball • Face painting • Laser Tag
- Live Music • Cake walk • Pringle Toss • Refreshments
- Many more exciting activity booths and games

For additional information, please send email to WBE Parent Teachers' Association at [springfest@wellsbranchpta.org](mailto:springfest@wellsbranchpta.org).

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!

## WBE Spring Fest Silent Auction

The 10th annual Spring Festival and Silent Auction needs your help. We are currently seeking donations for the silent auction – **please consider donating an item, gift basket or a gift certificate to be auctioned off.** Our goal for this year's event is to raise over \$16,000, and we cannot do it without YOU! All of the money raised will go directly back to the students. No donation is too small, and it's a great way to showcase your business to hundreds of potential customers.

Your donation will be displayed along with donor information during the silent auction and be seen by potentially 1,100 families from Wells Branch and the surrounding communities. We welcome your brochures or business cards to be placed alongside your donation.

If we hear from you by March 29, your business and your generous donation will be listed in the Spring Festival Flyer, which is available to all of the Spring Festival attendees, encouraging them to patronize your business. Your donation helps to ensure that every student has a broader, more fulfilling experience than can be delivered in the classroom alone.

You can mail your donation, or we are happy to pick it up. Please contact Sonya Shaffer at 512-924-2342 or [silentauction@wellsbranchpta.org](mailto:silentauction@wellsbranchpta.org).



**WBCC Spring Arts & Craft Fair**  
**Saturday, March 28 • 9am-3pm**  
LIVE FOR MORE CENTER • 14735 BRATTON LANE SUITE 125  
Free Admission! Concession Sales & Silent Auction  
benefit WBCC Youth Group "The Branch"

## WBNA Officer Elections

Annual WBNA officer elections were held on February 12.

The following Wells Branch neighbors were re-elected:

Debby Thompson, President;  
Chuck Walters, Vice President;  
Lara Bennett, Treasurer;  
Tom Cheshire, Community Liaison;  
Linda Baird, Secretary;  
Pam King Wachholz, Editor (non-voting) and Member-at-Large,  
Donna Malone.



Following the election, Lt. Craig Smith with the Travis County Sheriff's Office spoke on community safety and addressed questions from residents.

The WBNA welcomes input and involvement from everyone. Special thanks to those who joined or renewed their memberships last month. We're so glad to have you!

If you haven't joined yet, there's a membership form on the back page. We want to hear from you. Tell us what you'd like to see in the way of meetings and events and how we can help you become more involved in your community. Contact us at: [info@wbna.us](mailto:info@wbna.us)

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## On being a good neighbor... by Moises Solis (an open letter to those who don't pick up after their dogs)

It's the little acts of love, devotion, and courage that keep the darkness at bay. It takes courage, love, and devotion to pick up after your dog. This small act of kindness has a profound impact on the spirit of your neighbors.

As a home and dog owner, it really angers me when I find unwelcome gifts on my lawn, on the trails, or in the fields of our parks. If we look inside of the trail garbage cans, one will find that many people pick up after their dogs. It's the people that don't pick up that I am writing about and the impact that they have on the rest of us.

Walking on the trails, I see piles of unwanted land-mines on the walk-paths, alongside the trails, next to the trail-lights, next to the trees, and next to the posts that contain the free poop bags that the MUD provides. Responsible pet owners walk the trails and notice the new arrivals of nastiness. We even know most of the people that walk away without picking up their waste. For some, they have disabilities that impair the pick-up process. For others, we cannot see any visible reason for the walk-away. If we were to speak, it would be to voice our displeasure.

As a member of the non-formed network of responsible pet owners in Wells Branch, collectively we have a voice. And together we say, it matters if you walk away without picking up after your dog. In fact, non-dog-owners blame us for your lack of action. Even a small dog's fecal matter can cause harms to others.



In the end, it's the smallest act of love, devotion, and courage that keeps the darkness away. And to the many people who pick up after their pets, know that I admire your spirit.

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### BSA Venture Crew 1409

Crew 1409 just dusted off our hiking boots after visiting Palo Duro Canyon during spring break. Highlights included visiting the iconic Lighthouse rock formation and experimenting with camp cooking!



Four of our crew members, Anna Dzurenko, Evan Jewett, Andrew Michelson, and Chris Riseling, earned their Venturing Award by completing Personal Safety Awareness training, making a commitment to the crew, and participating in crew and community events.

Venturing is a youth development program of the Boy Scouts of America for young men and women who are 14 – 20 years of age. Venturing's purpose is to provide positive experiences to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults.

Contact Jill Douglass (512-293-9022 / [jdouglass@crew1409.com](mailto:jdouglass@crew1409.com)) for questions about the Crew. Visit <http://www.crew1409.com/> to learn more!



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### BSA Pack 728

The Cub Scouts and families have been busy these past few months. We had our Pinewood Derby event at the Community Center, toured Austin Police

Department's North Substation and participated in Report to State. Our Pack also assisted in cleaning up and planting/mulching at the disc golf course for It's My Park Day.

Looking for a neighborhood Cub Scout Pack for your son? Please email us at [wbpack728@gmail.com](mailto:wbpack728@gmail.com) or drop in and see what we're all about. We meet at the Live For More Center every Wednesday at 6:30pm.



### BSA Troop 1409

Troop 1409 has been busy preparing for the upcoming summer camps and activities. We have three scouts that are going to Philmont this summer to attend the National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience (NAYL) program in the rugged

New Mexico wilderness. NAYLE is the ultimate in training experiences for youth leaders, both young men and women. Scouts will also be attending Buffalo Trails Scout Camp in the Davis Mountains this summer.

Troop members came out to the WBNA hosted reception for the newly elected officials and had the opportunity to meet some of the leaders who serve Wells Branch and surrounding areas. Members met and shook hands with State Representative Celia Israel, Constable Adan Ballesteros, and Justice of the Peace, Judge Randall Slagle.

In addition to the Troop attending leadership classes with Scoutmaster Rich Michelson, they completed the Digital Technology merit badge, where Scouts discovered and learned about the close relationship between humans and the technical world surrounding us. Computers are just an extension of the Scout, helping the Scout, but unlike all the SciFi shows - the machines are simply an extension of - not a replacement for - the human mind.

The Boy Scouts want you! Now is the time to join the fun and excitement of America's foremost youth program for boys. Come see us at Troop 1409. The Troop meets at Wells Branch MUD Annex (14611 Wells Port Drive, Austin, Texas, 78728) on Sunday afternoons from 2:00 to 3:30 pm. Check us out at [www.troop1409.com](http://www.troop1409.com) or email us at

Resurrection (from Latin resurrectio) is the concept of a living being coming back to life after death. It is a religious concept, where it is used in two distinct respects: a belief in the resurrection of the dead, and a belief in the resurrection of the living (Christ).

## RESURRECTION

What does it mean to you?  
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## Friends of the Library News by Gus Kohn, President, Friends of the WB Library

### Elections and General Meeting

The FOL would like to thank Erin Caffey for hosting a very informative and delicious event for us on February 8: A Chocolate Appreciation Class! We learned all about chocolate: from bean to bar and how a Chocolatier works with chocolate. Plus, we got to make treats that we could eat right on the spot! Erin is our own Wells Branch Chocolatier, the owner of Erincredible Chocolates and MORE! She's been creating award winning chocolate treats and creations since 2009. She also teaches a one-of-a-kind Chocolate Tasting Experience Class, which is like a wine tasting but with chocolate. You can find her latest creations for every occasion on her website [erincrediblechocolates.com](http://erincrediblechocolates.com), or on Facebook at [facebook.com/ChocolatierErinC](https://www.facebook.com/ChocolatierErinC).

A General Meeting of the Friends of the Wells Branch Community Library was held immediately following the Chocolate Appreciation Class where activities and programs provided by the FOL were outlined and an election of officers was conducted.

All incumbent FOL Board members were re-elected. Joan Mead, a staunch supporter and active participant of the FOL, was elected to a vacancy.

Current board members include: Gus Kohn, President, Tracy Simon, Vice-President, Joy Hall Bryant Secretary, Theresa Faris, Treasurer and Library Trustee Liaison, Madonna Johnson, At-Large Director and, Joan Mead, At-Large Director. Please congratulate these individuals when you see them for their support of the Friends of the Wells Branch Community Library. If you are not already a member of the FOL or your membership has lapsed, **please join**. Applications are available online at [wbfriends.org](http://wbfriends.org) or the circulation desk at the library.

### FOL Program Survey

LOVE Wells Branch? What types of programming can we offer that would make it EVEN BETTER? Please take a few minutes to tell us what kind of programs you'd like to see the FOL/Library provide for adults.

The survey is here: <http://tinyurl.com/FOLsurvey>.

Coming Soon - Special FOL 'Members Only' events and/or Members Only activities in conjunction with public events. Join the Friends of the Wells Branch Community Library or renew your membership online at [www.wbfriends.org/membership](http://www.wbfriends.org/membership) or at the Circulation desk in the library.

The Friends of the Wells Branch Community Library support library programs and community outreach. We need your membership, input and involvement to be successful.

## HUGE Community Garage Sale!

**April 18 • 7am-noon**

**WB Library • 15001 Wells Port**

Come & see what treasures Wells Branch has to offer! Enjoy a visit with your neighbors and a hot cup of coffee as you peruse their offerings. 100 booths with over 60 vendors will be gathered for the annual FOL Garage Sale. Everyone will be there! Rent a space and sell your own treasures or donate those extra items to the FOL booth for our fundraiser. Space rentals may be made at [wbfriends.org/events](http://wbfriends.org/events) or at the circulation desk at the library. See insert for rental form. Concessions will be available for purchase courtesy of the Friends of the Library. Proceeds from concession sales and items sold in the FOL booth benefit library programs.



## 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](http://wellsbranchmud.com) to learn more about **Volleyball Clinics, Basketball Clinics, Art Mini-Camps and Swim Lessons**. Don't wait! Registration starts early and fills fast!

### Stuff-2-Do Summer Day Camps

Wells Branch MUD will again offer its Stuff-2-Do Summer Day Camp in weekly sessions in 2015 for children K-5th grades. Registration for Wells Branch residents with recreation tags will begin Monday, April 20. Registration for all residents begins Monday, April 27, and open enrollment for all others begins Thursday, April 30. Registration continues until the camps are full. Register at the Recreation Center, 3000 Shoreline. The age-appropriate camp will be determined by the grade your child just completed. Check [wellsbranchmud.com](http://wellsbranchmud.com) for more information, theme weeks and dates.







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## WB Armada News

by Anne Bennett, President, WB Armada

Spring is on its way and that means...time to think swimming! It's going to be an exciting season! We hope you'll join us!

Registration: There will be two in-person registration dates:

**Saturday, March 28 • 2-4pm at the WB Recreation Center on Shoreline**

**Thursday, April 9 • 6-8pm at the WB Community Center on Klattenhoff**

Registration fees are the same as for 2014: \$125 for the first swimmer from each household; \$100 for each additional swimmer from the same household. Each family is also responsible for raising or donating \$50 via our Swim-A-Thon fundraiser. Please note that fees increase by \$25 per swimmer after April 10, 2015.

Junior Coach Applications: Due April 15.

New Parent Orientation: Thursday, April 30, from 6:30-7:30pm at the WB Recreation Center on Shoreline.

Stroke and Turn Officials and Starter Training: Mock meet format at the Pflugerville pool: 700 North Railroad Avenue, Pflugerville, TX. There are 2 training dates: Thursday, May 7 and Tuesday, May 12. Times are TBA, but should be in the evening.

Please continue to check our website: <https://wellsbranch.swimtopia.com/> for updates as they become available.

## Pioneer Festival

**Saturday, April 25 • Noon-5pm • WB Homestead**

One of our Wells Branch traditions, the annual Pioneer Festival celebrates Texas history by offering a window to our past. Pioneer Fest is centered around the historic Wells Branch Homestead, the 1850s-era cabin in Katherine Fleischer Park and features fun and educational activities throughout the day so each of us may experience the history of 19th Century Texas. Demonstrations include rope making, corn husk doll making, syrup making and butter churning, just to name a few. If you would like to volunteer or have a craft or activity from that period for demonstration, call the MUD office at 251-9814. This event is hosted by the MUD with just about every single community service group participating - a TRUE community event!



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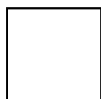
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## WB Soccer Assn. Breaks Spring Roster Record

By: Leisha Richardson, Communications Coordinator, WBSA

The sun is finally shining and another great soccer season in Wells Branch is well underway! We are excited to announce that the spring 2015 registration has turned out to be a record breaking roster for our community with 27 total teams and 216 players, well surpassing the 2014 spring season roster! The WBSA season started February 28 and will go through May 9.

As you may have noticed some changes are underway for our soccer fields with the new elementary school breaking ground in Wells Branch. WBSA is grateful for the help from the Wells Branch MUD to keep the soccer club growing by providing field space during the interim and for supporting the build of a new Wells Branch soccer complex.

The WBSA Board would also like to recognize and thank our team coaches and volunteers for the Spring 2015 season:

**Coaches:** Thomas Bartlett, Allan Trent Bates, Chris Connell, Dan Denson, Arthuro Duarte, Jeremiah Ebeling, Nnaemeka Emejulu, Jorge Flores Limones, Blythe Gander, Jason Gander, Gabriel Gibbons, Carol Glinski, John Glinski, Elizabeth Grimsley, Betsey Harper, Hector Hinojosa, John Hull, Freddie Jones, Susanne Land, Dale Love, Nick Marquez, Kaye McKinnerney, Michael McVea, Carlos Molina, Michael Morrison, Karl Nicholas, Paul Olivas, Ashok Perera, Bradley Peterson, Frank Richardson, Tony Rose, Gregory Sawruk, Erwin Tavera, Paul Trimble, Jesus Valdez, Brian Ward, Steven Wilson

**Team Managers and Volunteers:** Tara Fisher-Munoz, Julie Goebel, Gabriela Hinojosa, Sivaram Manda, Sarah Marquez, Vanessa Randels, Katy Thaden, Stephanie May, Sheila McCardle, Kevin McInerney, Rey Moreno, Sam Myung, Stacy Nguyen, Tavanna Porter, Betty Qussad, Rebecca Dominguez, Stacy Gearhart, Stephanie Rieper, Laura Carrillo, Martha Robicheaux, Timothy Shaffer, Erika Sheridan, Mary Smits, Armandina Zamora Torres, Paul Trimble, Tosha VanMetre, Cynthia Vences, RayAnnon Young-Watson, Elida Esquivel

Whether you're a player, family member or a fan of soccer, we look forward to seeing everyone out on the fields and enjoying this great sport! Go WBSA soccer!

*Wells Branch Soccer Association (WBSA) is a North Austin non-profit youth sports organization dedicated to providing neighborhood children the opportunity to develop friendships, new skills and emerge as future leaders of the community. Visit [wellsbranchsoccer.com](http://wellsbranchsoccer.com) to learn more.*

## Open Ears Concert Series

**St. Andrews Presbyterian Church • 14311 Wells Port Drive**

Doors open and Potluck begins one hour before showtime.

While there is a suggested donation of \$15, no one will be turned away. For more information, [www.openearsconcerts.com](http://www.openearsconcerts.com)

**Sunday, March 22, 1:30pm: Ellis** [www.ellis-music.com](http://www.ellis-music.com)

**Friday, April 10, 7pm: David Roth** [www.davidrothmusic.com](http://www.davidrothmusic.com)

**Saturday, May 16, 7pm: St. Pauls Hoot Night**

# AustinTexasHealth.com

## Community Health & Rehab Centre

2013 Wells Branch Parkway, Suite 103, Austin, TX 78728

**(512)835-6077**

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- ✓ Post-Surgical Rehab
- ✓ Sports Injuries
- ✓ Car Accidents
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## Reduce • Reuse • Recycle It's a way of life!

Come to the WB Eco Fair on May 18 to learn how everyday habits can make you even more environmentally responsible. Details in insert.

Wells Branch MUD offers Bulk Trash Disposal the 2nd Saturday of each month and the WBNA hosts Extreme Clean quarterly (Jan/Apr/Jul/Oct) for repurposing, reuse, and disposal of unwanted items and hazardous waste. Our next collection is April 11. See insert for details.

Curbside Recycling Pickup only occurs every other week on regular trash collection days. For a complete list of recyclable items and a printable calendar, please visit: [http://www.wellsbranchmud.com/general\\_information/single-stream-recycling.html](http://www.wellsbranchmud.com/general_information/single-stream-recycling.html)



### Clip & Save Recycling Calendar

#### April 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		

#### May 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						



## WB MUD News

### New Communication Form

In response to residents' requests to be able to view the Minutes from MUD Board meetings in a more timely manner, the MUD has offered the following solution.

The Board Agenda is now a chart of items coming before the Board. Decisions are then noted next to the items on the chart and the resulting document is then posted to the MUD website ([wellsbranchmud.com](http://wellsbranchmud.com)) under the *Board* tab, *Current Agendas & Minutes*, *Meeting Notes*.

### Wells Branch Traffic and Safety Open Meeting Tuesday, March 24 • 7pm • WB Community Center

**Traffic:** Wells Branch and the surrounding area have experienced massive growth in the last few years. Some of this growth was actively challenged, but we did not have much of a voice in the decisions that were made. Now the Wells Branch MUD is looking at the traffic and safety concerns this growth has and will continue to create. We are scheduled to meet with our county commissioner and other Travis County authorities to ensure they understand the magnitude of the impact to the community, to request impact studies and to brainstorm possible remedies. We want to hear the community's specific concerns and ideas before the visit with Travis County.

**Street & Sidewalk Maintenance:** We will also take concerns that residents have about their specific street to Travis County. If you have a crumbling curb or pot hole, please document it with pictures and note the address closest to the problem. Include your contact information and send these digitally to [info@wellsbranchmud.com](mailto:info@wellsbranchmud.com).

For more information, visit the WB MUD website at [wellsbranchmud.com](http://wellsbranchmud.com).

## WB MUD Now Hiring!

### Great jobs for college kids home for the summer!

The Wells Branch MUD is currently hiring for the following positions:

- Lifeguard
- Summer Day Camp Counselor
- Lead Summer Day Camp Counselor

Please visit the link below for detailed information on jobs available and the application process.

<http://wellsbranchmud.com/jobs>

## Fire Ants?

It's March and that means it's time to treat for Fire Ants. Learn how you can control these critters from TexaScapes founder, Richard Fadal at <http://wbna.us/community/gardening-in-wells-branch/the-green-gardener/>



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## Summer Art Mini-Camps with Dianne Koehler – Sign up TODAY!

Want to bring out the creative side of your child this summer? Join us for the art mini-camp program sponsored by the Wells Branch MUD (40% of the tuition supports programs in WB). We pack lots of activities into each week of three 1/2 day sessions: painting, drawing, 3-D art, fabric painting, mosaics, clay sculpture, murals, and art discussions. Camp is \$45 per 3-day session. To register, visit the MUD Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive, call 512-251-9814 or register online at wellsbranchmud.com. Campers need to bring a snack each day. All materials included. Limited space available.

**Beginning Artist** (age 4.5-7 or going into Kindergarten/1st grade) 9-11:30am T/W/Th. Projects based on stories and demonstrations. Limit 16

6/9-11 • Painting and Drawing - Wild Animals

6/23-25 • Cat in the Hat is at Camp

7/7-9 • Wild & Wacky Art of Science - From bubble-ology to color mixing to erupting designs we will explore the crazy art of science

7/21-23 • Back in Time - Pioneering at Camp - Learn to make candles, quilt squares, corn husk people, dancing stick men, and draw with a feather pen using natural ink

8/4-6 • Fantasy: Castles, Knights, Princesses, Dragons, Fairies & Elves, Wands & Magic

**Junior artists** (age 7 1/2-12) 12-3:30 pm T/W/Th. Learn a bit of art info and history and do the projects in depth. Limit 26

6/9-11 • Painting and Drawing I - Wild Animals

6/16-18 • NOT Your Momma's Art Camp - Clay & Mache, Hats & Masks, Bags

6/23-25 • Our Planet World - Construct from The Lorax and more...

6/30-7/2 • Stars 'n Stripes - Make a Parade Float, Confetti

Poppers, 3D Flag, Patriotic Pinwheels, and Lots of Painting - ALL AGES

7/7-9 • Wild & Wacky Science Art - Make our own fossils, investigate colorful chemical interactions, create crystals and paint with them, build your own engineering marvels

7/14-16 • Painting and Drawing II - Cartoons and Super Heroes

7/21-23 • Back in Time - Pioneering at Camp

7/28-7/30 • Food Art from Color to Style - Fruit Pizza, South Seas Salad, Recipe Books, Decorated Lunches, Food Sculptures. Special Time: 10 am-1:30 pm - **NOT for KIDS with ALLERGIES** as we will eat some of our art!

8/4-6 • Painting and Drawing III - Fantasy: Fairies, Princesses, Dragons

Curious about  
current construction projects? Go to  
**www.wbna.us**  
for updates.



# Community Calendar

Mar. 22, 12:30pm: Open Ears Concert - **Ellis** - St. Andrews  
 Mar. 24, 7pm: MUD Meeting re: Traffic Concerns, WBCC\*\*  
 Mar. 26, 7pm: WBNA Meeting re: Travis County CDBG, WBCC\*  
 Mar. 28, 10am: Proj Grad Paint Run, Old Settlers Park, pg. 6  
 Mar. 28, 11am: Proj Grad RaiderFest-BBQ, Music & More  
 Mar. 28, 9am-3pm: WBCC Craft Fair, LFMC, 14735 Bratton  
 Mar. 28, 10am-1pm: Dog Fair & \$25 Pet Chipping, KFP-WBCC  
 Mar. 28, 2-4pm: Armada Registration, WBRC\*  
 Apr. 4, 10am: WBNA Easter Egg Hunt, Homestead at KF Park\*  
 Apr. 9, Time TBA: Silver Branchers Day Trip to Gruene  
 Apr. 9, 6-8pm: Armada Registration, WBCC\*  
 Apr. 10, 6pm: Open Ears Concert - **David Roth** - St. Andrews\*  
 Apr. 11, 8am-5pm: **Hazardous Waste & Bulk Trash Collection**,  
 Location: 13905 Thermal Dr.\* includes:  
 8am-Noon: Drug Take-Back  
 8am-1pm: Free Shredding  
 8am-1pm: Habitat for Humanity Collection  
 8am-4pm: Goodwill Collection benefitting Connally HS  
 8am-5pm: Electronics Recycling  
 Apr. 11, 10am-1pm: Keep WB Beautiful Trash Off, WBA\*  
 Apr. 11, 2-6pm: WB Elementary Spring Festival\*  
 Apr. 18, 7am-noon: FOL Garage Sale, WBCL\*  
 Apr. 18, 2pm: Proj Grad Golf Tourn & \$5k Putting Contest, pg. 6  
 Apr. 18, TBA: Garden Guild - Green & Growing Field Trip\*  
 Apr. 18, 6:30pm: Proj Grad Fashion Show, see pg. 6  
 Apr. 20, 6am: Stuff-2-Do Camp Reg., In-District w/Rec Tag\*\*  
 Apr. 25, 12-5pm: Pioneer Fest, Homestead at KF Park\*\*  
 Apr. 27, 6am: Stuff-2-Do Camp Reg., In-District w/o Rec Tag \*\*  
 Apr. 30, 6am: Stuff-2-Do Camp Reg., Open Registration\*\*  
 May 2, 8am-6pm: Project Grad Scrapbooking Event, pg. 6  
 May 2, 9am-noon: Youth Fishing Tournament, Mills Pond\*\*  
 May 9, 9am-4pm: Disc Golf Tourn., Owen Tech Course\*\*  
 May 9, 1-4pm: WB Eco Fair, WBRC\* see insert  
 May 14, Time TBA: Silver Branchers Day Trip, Pioneer Farms  
 May 16, 9am: Garden Guild - WB Garden Tour, WBRC\*  
 May 16, 6pm: Open Ears Concert - **St. Pauls Hoot Night** - SA  
 \*See wbnas.us                      \*\*See wellsbranchmud.com

See Calendar Legend and Recurring Events to the right.

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### WB SOLD STATS FOR LAST 6 MONTHS\*

1100-1999 sq ft	2000-2900 sq ft
46 homes sold	33 homes sold
Avg days on market: 17	Avg days on market: 26
Avg sq ft: 1559	Avg sq ft: 2289
Avg sold price/sq ft: \$125.96	Avg sold price/sq ft: \$106.60
Avg sold price: \$195,374	Avg sold price: \$243,182

\*MLS data for WB homes sold 9/1/14-2/28/15,  
deemed reliable not guaranteed

#### MY WELLS BRANCH LISTINGS:

- 14405 Robert I Walker: Renovated & great location, \$174,900—FOR SALE
- 2416 Rick Whinery: Majestic home across from Mills Pond, \$249,900—SOLD!



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#### Calendar Legend :

**MP**=Mills Pond; **WBCC**=Community Center on Klattenhoff;  
**WBCL**=WB Comm. Library; **WBRC**=Rec. Center on Shoreline  
**KF**=Katherine Fleischer Park on Klattenhoff;  
**SA**=St. Andrew's Pres. Church 14311 Wells Port Dr.;  
**LFMC**=Live for More Ctr, Bratton/Merrilltown;  
**WBMTc**=WB Maintenance 13905 Thermal Dr.;  
**WBA**=WB Annex 14611 Wells Port

#### Recurring Events-

**OA meetings, Tuesdays, 6pm at St. Andrew's**  
**WBE Farmer's Market, Wednesday's, 2:30 until it's gone**  
**Silver Branchers, Thursday's, 1-3pm WBRC**  
**WB Bird Walk Schedule, page 4**  
**Birding Series at WBCL, page 4**  
**Photo Club - 2nd Tues of each month, WBRC, Rm 1**  
**Running Club - Tues & Thurs, 5:45-6:45am, KF Gazebo**  
**Walking Club - Tues & Thurs, 9am, KF Pool**  
**WB MUD - 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 5:30pm, WBCC**

OFFICE USE ONLY

Dt. Rec'd: \_\_\_\_\_

Check#: \_\_\_\_\_

### 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

March 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