

MUD, HOA, POA, ACC, WBNA – WTH? Somebody tell me the difference, PLEASE!!!

(Also known as our annual reminder of Who's Who and What's What!) by Debby Thompson, WBNA President, with contributions by Chuck Walters, ACC Chair, WBNA Vice President and former President, Wells Branch MUD Board of Directors and Dan Ernst, former Stoneridge POA Board Member

If you've ever felt this way, this article is for you and if you're NEW to the neighborhood, please take a moment to read about the different entities and roles they play in our lives. Most of us in Wells Branch (except Bratton Glen, Bratton Hill, and Brattonwood) are a part of the Wells Branch MUD (also referred to as being In-District). If you live in Wells Branch, and pay your water bill to Wells Branch Municipal Utility District (MUD), you're in a MUD. You may also be in an HOA or POA. And, in addition to these, we'd really like to have you in the WBNA.

Are you confused yet?

Wells Branch MUD - The Wells Branch Municipal Utility District (MUD) is a recognized local government created under Texas State Law providing for these limited authority entities as part of the Water Code.

Wells Branch MUD provides for creation and management of services supporting water, wastewater, drainage, parks, safety, solid waste and other functions. The Wells Branch MUD Board of Directors are elected to four year terms every two years (for 2 or 3 members per election).

Wells Branch MUD was created in 1981 by a group of developers that were expanding neighborhoods around Austin. Wells Branch is NOT a part of the city of Austin, but we are in the ETJ (extra-territorial jurisdiction) of Austin. For this reason, we are served by the Travis County Sheriff's Office and ESD#2 instead of City of Austin Police or Fire Dept. We do not pay taxes to the "City"; we pay taxes to the MUD and County for their services.

The mission statement of Wells Branch MUD is as follows:

"The District works in a cost effective and efficient way to support the vision by monitoring, tracking, and ensuring quality of life in the District. Quality of life has been defined as safe water supply, well maintained amenities, recreational opportunities, general safety, and stable and appreciating property values."

HOA/POA (Home Owners Association/Property Owners Association) – Generally speaking, an HOA/POA is a membership of homeowners that is responsible for the enforcement of the Covenant Conditions and Restrictions for

See HOA/POA/MUD... on page 2

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 or volunteer to work the auction, please email us at silentauction@wbna.us. Thank you in advance for helping to make (and keep) Wells Branch GREAT!



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HOA/POA/MUD... from page 1

the properties in their immediate subdivision. There are some exceptions for "In-District" vs. "Out-of-District". Many of the Associations also maintain the landscaping and fences in the common areas of, once again, their immediate neighborhood. The goal of an HOA/POA is to enhance the appearance of its neighborhood and maintain property values. Dues paid to an HOA/POA, go for Covenant or Deed Restriction enforcement and maintenance of the common areas of the subdivision.

Each Association retains a property management company to collect dues and maintain the accounting and expenses for the Association.

If you are "In-District", the WB MUD handles your covenant enforcement. Some HOAs/POAs carry out Deed Restriction enforcement in addition to the Covenant Restrictions documented by the MUD.

"Out-of-District" HOAs/POAs are responsible for enforcement of violations of the Covenants and Deed Restrictions.

There are six HOAs or POAs in Wells Branch. If you live in Bratton Glen, Bratton Hill, Brattonwood, Brookside, Stoneridge or The Lake at Wells Branch, you live in an area with an HOA or POA. There are links to each of these HOAs/



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POAs along with property management information on our website: www.wbna.us at the very bottom of each page.

If your home is in one of these areas, membership in your designated HOA/POA is not optional and is disclosed during the purchase of your property. You became a member of your HOA/POA at the closing of your home purchase when you signed a "Planned Unit Development Rider" which explains the terms of the HOA/POA and your responsibility for payment of dues. You could not close on your property without signing this document.

Each HOA/POA has its own specific guidelines as to how many Board of Director positions are elected and the term of these positions although most offices are elected annually at a general meeting of Home/Property Owners. Board of Directors and Officers serve on a voluntary basis; they donate their time and efforts to the neighborhood.

The WB Architectural Control Committee (ACC) is an independent (non-MUD) group that must be contacted for home and property alterations prior to modifications for "In-District" properties. "Out-of-District" properties have their own Architectural Control Committees that may be contacted through their property management companies.

See HOA/POA/MUD... on page 3

WBNA – Wells Branch Neighborhood Association - The Wells Branch Neighborhood Association is a social/civic organization that includes all addresses in Wells Branch whether "In-District" or "Out-of-District". Our boundaries extend south to Howard Lane, east to I35, north to Grand Avenue and west to Burnet Road/1325. We are NOT a governing body and do not collect taxes. We have no legal right to enforce anything. Membership dues, \$20 per year per household, are optional, but **GREATLY appreciated**. The WBNA publishes the **Neighborhood News** six times a year. Each issue is hand delivered to every house in Wells Branch, all 3,366, by volunteers, distributed to 19 apartment complexes, area businesses and of course, the Library and the Rec. Center. In addition to this, we put on the Easter Egg Hunt each year, hold a Silent Auction fundraiser in the CC during FourthFest, host National Night Out for the neighborhood, actively participate in Halloween Trunk-or-Treat and host the Friday night activities during Luminary Fest in December. WBNA also hosts several meetings throughout the year featuring a variety of topics including safety, candidate forums, school bonds, and housing projects. Our website, WBNA.us posts neighborhood events, news, and information resources. We also maintain a Facebook page with photos from just about every WB event for the last several years. We encourage everyone to "Like" our page to receive updates and reminders on events in Wells Branch. The WBNA relies on dues, donations and advertising to fund our endeavors with the purpose of keeping the residents of Wells Branch informed and facilitating community spirit. We have a board consisting of six officers who are elected each January by a majority of WBNA members. We are strictly a volunteer-run organization.

In short:

WB MUD: Most of Wells Branch - Taxing entity with responsibility to provide services to residents. Provides a safe water supply and maintains an excellent park system that adds to our property values. Recreational opportunities and events sponsored by the MUD are outstanding!

HOA/POA: Some parts of WB - Collects dues for covenant (Out-of District, only) and deed restriction enforcement and property maintenance.

WBNA: All of Wells Branch - Voluntary membership to fund neighborhood activities and foster a sense of community.

Hopefully, we've helped to clear a little confusion. Bottom line is: All are separate entities with entirely different purposes, functions and funding. We can, however, communicate with each other and join together for events to create a stronger community.

Together, we all make Wells Branch Great!

See event photos on the WBNA Facebook page from

Pioneer Fest, Youth Fishing Tournament, Easter Egg Hunt, Eco Fair and more!

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Know the rules... **Summer Safety Tips** to teach children

From the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children

Below we've listed some basic summer safety tips to go over with your children. There's also an emergency contact sheet you can download at www.wbna.us => Safety => Kids Summer Safety Tips, fill in and keep on the

fridge just in case of an emergency. It may seem pretty basic, but in emergency situations, children can have difficulty remembering their names and addresses, much less how to contact Mom or Dad. Better safe than sorry. We want everyone to have a safe, fun summer!

For Parents:

Be sure your children know the rules about whose homes they may visit when you're not home and know their boundaries - where they may and may not go in the neighborhood. Make sure children know their full names, address, and telephone numbers and how to use the phone. Be sure they know what to do in case of an emergency and how to reach you. (See info sheet) Children should have a neighbor or trusted adult they may call if they're scared or there's an emergency. Make sure they know who to contact and that it's okay to do so.

Rules for Kids:

1. Always **CHECK FIRST** with your parents, guardians, or the trusted adult in charge before you go anywhere or do anything. Be sure to **CHECK IN** regularly so that someone knows where you are at all times.
2. Always **TAKE A FRIEND** with you when playing or going anywhere. It's safer and more fun.
3. **STAY AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS** when outside. Don't crank up the music and focus on texting. Know where you are at all times and more importantly, what, or who, is around you.
4. Stay **SAFER** when you're home alone by keeping the door locked; not opening the door for or talking to anyone who stops by unless the person is a trusted family friend or relative, you feel comfortable being alone with that person, and the visit has been pre-approved by your parents or guardians; and never telling anyone who calls that you're home by yourself. Say that your parents can't come to the phone right now and offer to take a message.
5. Don't be tricked by people who offer you treats or gifts. Never accept anything from anyone without your parents' or guardians' permission.
6. Never go into a public restroom by yourself.
7. Never go alone to malls, movies, parks, or video arcades. Take a friend with you, and always **CHECK FIRST** with your parents or guardians to make sure it's okay and so that an adult knows where you are at all times.
8. Be careful when you play. Don't play near busy streets or deserted areas and never take shortcuts unless you have your parents' or guardians' permission.
9. Don't wear clothes or carry items with your name on the outside and don't be confused just because a person you don't know calls out your name.

10. Don't get into or go near a vehicle with anyone in it unless you are with your parents, guardians, or a trusted adult. Never take a ride from anyone without **CHECKING FIRST** with your parents or guardians.

11. Be careful playing or riding your bike as it gets dark. Wear reflectors and light colored clothing so that drivers are able to see you.

Don't be afraid to say **NO** and **GET AWAY** from any situation that makes you feel scared, uncomfortable or confused.

TRUST YOUR FEELINGS and be sure to **TELL** a trusted adult if anything happens to make you feel this way.

Let's have a SAFE and HAPPY summer!

Living Green by Stephen Hochstetler

Why did we do the Solarize Wells Branch project? We did it to help the environment. While not everyone has the right roof to make Solar PV panels practical, every single homeowner and renter in WB can choose to reduce their impact on the environment. Green living choices include choosing 100% renewable (wind) power from your utility company or to become your own power plant with a Solar PV system.

The Solarize Wells Branch results have been fantastic with 58 households going through the workshops and 23 households signing contracts that total 127 kW. 190,000 kWh produced annually will reduce the utility company water usage by 95,000 gallons. It will also reduce the annual CO2 generated by the utility companies by 280,000 pounds. This is equivalent to 404,000 miles not driven by a car.

Can you still participate and get Solar Panels? YES! 30% Federal Tax Credit and utility rebates make it attractive financially. The tax credit decreases after 2016. Each year the utility rebate shrinks. If you are going to explore Solar panels, the encouragement is to start exploring with a solar vendor now. See <http://wellsbranchsolar.blogspot.com>.

What can you do for the environment if Solar Panels are not a viable solution? Be a positive impact to the environment by choosing renewable (wind) power from your utility company. Austin Energy customers can choose to use the Green-Choice Renewable Energy plan by calling 512-494-9400 (cost is ¾ of a penny per kWh). Retail electric provider customers can learn about renewable energy plans at <http://powertochoose.org>. On the lower left of the website (scroll down) you can choose to look at 100% renewable plans. You have the power to choose to live greener.

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for updates.

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LAST CHANCE—Protest Your Property Appraisal by June 1 By Michele Samuelson

When it arrived in the mail this month, did your property appraisal strike you as too high? You have just a few days left to file a protest with the Central Appraisal District!

Property values are definitely high in our area, and this is a great thing – most of the time. When your property is appraised for taxable value, oftentimes the appraisal is based on general, not specific, factors. The one recourse for taxpayers is the protest process, which can seem daunting. There are companies you can hire to handle your protest, but “buyer beware;” do your research to be assured of the company’s past success before trusting your protest to them. The following steps should help guide you through the process, should you choose to do it on your own.

First, complete the form included with your notice and either mail, file an online protest on the CAD website, or call them no later than June 1st to schedule your first, informal conference. Protest the value based on both the property being assessed over market value and for unequal appraisal.

Second, do your research. Become familiar with your county’s Central Appraisal District. Appraisal records are kept for each property; you can request any information not found on the website from the appraiser you speak with in that first conference. Validate the information, because errors can be used to make your argument. The condition of your property is determined as of January 1. If you recently bought your house for less than the appraised value or if you had an independent appraisal done that came in less, that can be basis

for a protest. To get an idea of unequal appraisals, look up properties surrounding yours on the CAD website.

Next, if you file a formal protest, you will be notified of the date and time to attend the Appraisal Review Board hearing and will be asked to come in 15 minutes early to attend an informal conference with the appraiser in advance of the formal hearing. Most appraisal protests are settled in the informal hearing, so don’t miss it!

Your Appraisal Review Board (ARB) hearing takes place before a three-member citizen panel appointed to hear protests. The CAD will have a representative and a clerk present. You will be sworn in and the hearing will be recorded. The CAD appraiser will present their case and then you will present yours. You will need four copies of your documents for the panel and CAD appraiser. The ARB panel will then announce their decision.

If you are unhappy with the decision, your next step is arbitration or a lawsuit. Most lawsuits are settled without going to court, but if they go further the cost is considerable. Make sure you are fighting for real money before going that route.

Finally, be prepared to protest again next year! There are many things about your home’s condition that the CAD may be unaware of – you may find that your appraisal goes up in spite of this. Keep good records, take photos, and watch for that appraisal to arrive again next May. Finally, stay informed about local government activity that can affect your taxes and appraisals. Best of luck!

Clip-n-Save Summer Pool Hours

Katherine Fleischer Pool		
May 4 - June 3		
Open Swim	M-F	3-9pm
	S-S	1-9pm
Lap Swim	M-F	3-4pm
	M-F	7:30-9pm
June 4 - August 23		
Open Swim	M-Th, Sa	10am-9pm
	F	4-9pm
	Su	1-9pm

Willow Bend Pool		
May 4 - June 3		
Open/Lap	S-S	1-9pm
Lap Swim	M-F	5:30-7:30am
	M-F	12-2pm
June 6 - July 10		
Open/Lap	M-F	2-9pm
	S-S	2-9pm
Lap Swim	M-F	5:30-7am
	M-F, Su	12-2pm
July 11 - August 23		
Open/Lap	M-F	2-9pm
	S-S	2-9pm
Lap Swim	M-F	5:30-7am
	Everyday	12-2pm

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

Summer Safety Reminders

Summertime is here and the weather is beautiful.

Unfortunately, this wonderful weather sometimes causes us to forget about the security of our belongings. When the weather is nice we tend to open windows and doors to take advantage of the sunshine and warm breeze. It is very important to remember that everything you open must be re-secured. Summer is a great time in Austin Texas, keep yourself and your property safe this summer by following the suggestions in these articles.

~ Lieutenant Craig Smith, Travis County Sheriff's Office

Most of the crimes around Wells Branch are crimes of opportunity and unfortunately, those types of crime tend to increase as the weather gets warmer. We've already seen a rash of car break-ins this spring. Make that extra effort to not become a victim.

- Take your keys.
- Lock your car.
- Don't leave anything of value in plain sight. Better yet, take it in the house.
- Keep your garage doors closed; do not leave an open garage unattended.
- Always lock the inside garage door.
- If you park your car in the driveway, make sure you take the remote garage door opener in with you. A garage door opener gives instant protected access to your home and your belongings.
- Be aware of your surroundings at all times.
- When leaving your home, pay attention to anything that doesn't look right.

Call the sheriff's department if you see **ANYTHING** suspicious. Many of the break-ins we've suffered could have been prevented. Travis County would much rather answer a false alarm than deal with a tragedy later. If it doesn't feel right, it probably isn't - Call!



Drowning Is Preventable

Drowning is the #1 cause of accidental death for children under 5, and a leading cause of accidental death for children under 14. The month of May is National Water Safety Month. Here are few safety tips from the Prevention Division of Travis County Emergency Services District #2, Tom Crane Assistant Chief:

1. Teach children water safety and swimming skills as early as possible
2. Appoint a "designated watcher" to monitor children during social gatherings at or near pools. Safety with younger children requires constant visual supervision; if parents are otherwise occupied, have children step out of the pool
3. Toddlers should play in zero-depth, spray (sprinkler) or fountain play areas where possible
4. Don't use flotation devices as a substitute for supervision
5. Always brief babysitters on water safety, emphasizing the need for constant supervision
6. Install pool and gate alarms to alert you when children go near the water
7. Post CPR instructions and learn the procedures
8. Use a poolside phone, preferably a cellular or cordless model, with emergency numbers programmed into speed-dial

Vacation Safety Tips

If you plan to be away:

- Let a neighbor and/or block captain know you'll be out of town and when you'll return. They should have the following: your emergency contact information; contact information for anyone with access to your house (pet sitter, etc.); when they should be expected; what they look like and a description of their vehicle(s).
- Let only those who NEED to know, know when you are going out of town.
- **Don't share vacation plans on social media.**
- Arrange to have your lawn cared for if you are going to be away.
- Don't hide keys under doormats, flowerpots or in similar places.
- Put your lights, stereo and/or TV on timers.
- Leave 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.
- Keep your house well lit at night (backyard included). A motion sensor or photocell activated light is an inexpensive deterrent.
- **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 512-854-9721. Ask to make a Close Patrol Request. You will be asked for information on those caring for your home while you're away: make and model of their vehicles, name, description and times they should be at your home.

Silver Branchers by Darlene Bauhs and Ron Robinder

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 Rec. Center on Shoreline.

Beginning the week of June 8th, the Silver Branchers will move to the WB MUD Annex at 14611 Wells Port Drive while the construction at the Rec. Center is completed. An Ice Cream Social is planned for July 2nd. Day trips will resume in the fall. All residents 55 years and older are welcome.

For additional information, contact the Wells Branch MUD at 512-251-9814.



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New Business Spotlight by Gus Kohn

I am excited that we have two new restaurants in the neighborhood. As you know we like to patronize local businesses whenever possible to support our community, the Wells Branch Community Library and ESD #2.

The first new business I'd like to discuss is an addition to Garbo's located at 14735 Bratton Lane; they have expanded to feature a new wine and oyster bar featuring an exquisite selection of wine as well as sake and beer. Guests will have the opportunity to taste fresh oysters from across the country including Belon, Shigoku from Washington State, and more.



Known for its fresh lobster rolls, Garbo's has expanded its menu, created by Executive Chef Will Foden, to feature snacks like smoked fish dip; tuna crostini; small plates including ceviche, grilled octopus and white wine mussels; and large plates like grilled monkfish, porcini dusted flat iron steak, and fish and chips.

Complementing the opening of the wine and oyster bar, Garbo's is also introducing Sunday brunch. The new brunch menu will feature plates including House-Made Chorizo and Eggs, Crab Sandwich ; an Omelette with asparagus, brie, and lobster; and more. In addition to the popular oysters and lobster rolls, brunch will also feature a selection of "snacks" like baked clams and sea urchin. There will also be a special brunch bar menu including the Mimosa Kit, where guests will receive a bottle of cava with a carafe of orange and grapefruit juice, and the Michelada Verde with tomatillo, lime, hot sauce, and beer. The restaurant's hours of operation are Tue-Fri 11am-2pm & 5-9pm, Sat 3-10pm, and Sunday brunch from 10:30am-3pm. The new oyster and wine bar is open from 3-10pm Tue-Sun.



Bribery Bakery opened in Wells Branch eight weeks ago at 2013 West Wells Branch Pkwy, Ste 109, in Wells Branch Market Center. This cozy bakery with its homey, eclectic, personal atmosphere and enticing smells is the offspring of Jodi Elliott. A Culinary Institute of

America trained pastry chef and entrepreneur from San Antonio, Jodi has worked in fine dining restaurants in New York, London (at The Savoy Hotel) and Portland before coming to Austin six years ago and opening Foreign & Domestic in central Austin.

See New Business on page 9

NWF Certifies 3 New Wildlife Habitats in Wells Branch

The National Wildlife Federation® (NWF) is pleased to recognize that Wanda Holcombe, Sharon Richardson and the WB Nature Viewing Station have successfully created official Certified Wildlife Habitat™ sites. NWF celebrates the efforts of these residents to create garden spaces that improve habitats for birds, butterflies, frogs and other wildlife by providing essential elements needed by all wildlife - natural food sources, clean water, cover and places to raise young.



"Providing a home for wildlife in our communities - whether it's at home, or in schools, businesses or parks - is the demonstration of a healthy and active eco-system. There is no more rewarding way to stay connected to nature right outside your door," said David Mizejewski, naturalist with the National Wildlife Federation.

Certified Habitats allow you to take pleasure in watching nature while improving the environment. Redesigning yards to make them more inviting to wildlife not only gives you something to enjoy but also helps you to become greener by reducing area of lawn to mow, cutting down on watering and saving time in the long run to enjoy your time spent outside.

NWF's Certified Wildlife Habitat program has been helping people take personal action on behalf of wildlife for more than 40 years. The program engages homeowners, businesses, schools, churches, parks and other institutions that want to make their communities wildlife friendly.

These new certified habitats join NWF's roll of more than 150,000 certified habitats nationwide. Wildlife habitats are important to year-round wildlife residents as well as species that migrate, such as some birds and butterflies. Each habitat is unique for both beauty and function.

For more information on gardening for wildlife and details on how an entire community can become certified, visit www.nwf.org/habitat or call 1-800-822-9919. The mission of the National Wildlife Federation is to inspire Americans to protect wildlife for our children's future.

Visit 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....

WB Birders please note: Bird Walks will resume in Sept.

For further information on Birding in WB, contact:

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

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New Business from page 8

Her zeal for baking began in her grandmother's kitchen when she was seven; she's known since that early age that she wanted to become a pastry chef. With the influence of her grandmother and her various recipes and stories to go with them, Jodi couldn't see herself doing anything else; she still uses many of her Grandmother's recipes with her own creative spin in her conceptions today.

As part owner of Foreign & Domestic restaurant with a desire to do more baking, she began a bake sale on the weekends which flourished with interested followers and grew into **Bribery Bakery**; many of those customers still come to Wells Branch for her fabulous creations. Jodi has plans to open a second location in the Mueller neighborhood later this year but the main location and commissary will be here in Wells Branch.

Her mouth-watering and innovative productions are made fresh daily in Wells Branch using ingredients from local purveyors to produce her fluid menu. Look for variety and spontaneity when you go to **Bribery Bakery**; you will always find something new to try. They are open Tue-Fri 7am-5:30pm and Sat



& Sun 8am-5pm; their phone number is (512) 531-9832. Jodi is eager to build lasting relationships in Wells Branch, stop by and see for yourself what **Bribery Bakery** is all about. You won't regret it! See their ad on page 3 for a coupon.



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

The library will be closed for painting from Monday, May 25th through Thursday, May 28th.



Summer Reading 2015: June 13th – August 8th

All ages can turn in reading and activity logs for prizes and raffle entries.

Kick-Off Concert: Lucas Miller, the Singing Zoologist
June 13th at 2pm. Space is limited, register online.

YA 4ever: A book club for tweens, teens, and adults to discuss popular Young Adult novels.

- June 17th at 6:00pm - Paper Towns by John Green
- July 6th at 6:00pm - The Fifth Wave by Rick Yancey

Superhero Movie Days!

- June 20th at 2:00pm - The Avengers (PG-13)
- July 18th at 2:00pm - Guardians of the Galaxy (PG-13)

Supercrafts:** Mondays at 3:30pm - Fun superhero themed crafts for ages 5+.



Lego Lab: Saturdays at 12:30pm for ages 4+.
Explore and create with LEGOs in a free-play program.

eBooks, demystified – June 11th from 6-7pm Drop-in assistance one-on-one for patrons to get set up with Overdrive digital library. Practice on our machines or bring your own.

To Hell & Back: the WWII story of Audie Murphy
June 28th at 4pm. Duffy Hudson performs this one-man show, sponsored by the Friends of the Library.



Mythological Heroes – June 27th at 2pm
Learn about heroes of ancient myth from Dr. Nethercut of the UT Classics Department.

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

Register for programs at wblibrary.eventbrite.com

Book Clubs

Steamy Reads: 1st Wednesday of each month at 6pm:

June 3rd: *Sweetwater* by Lisa Henry & *Taming Eliza Jane* by Shannon Stacey

Clueless Mysteries: 3rd Sunday of each month at 3pm:

June 21st: *Hope to Die* by James Patterson

July 19th: *The Racketeer* by John Grisham



Wine, Women and Words: 1st Thursday of each month at 7pm:

June 4th: *All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion* by Fannie Flagg

July 2nd: *Daughters of the Grasslands* by May Woster Haug



Special Storytime Programs in June

Semellitas de Español – June 12th at 10:30 & 11:15am - Learn Spanish vocabulary through songs and play!

Heartsong Music Demo Class - June 15th at 10:30 & 11:15am- Free demo class for kids of all ages.

Youth Programs & Storytimes

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

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

Storytime & Craft** - Tues at 6:30pm (starting June 16, program will move to 6pm & 7pm)

Arts & Crafts** -Wed at 6pm

Toddler Storytime - Fri at 10:30am

Preschool Storytime - Fri at 11:15am

Saturday Storytime (all ages) - Sat at 11am

Bow Wow Reading Dogs (ages 5+) – Sat by apt

**free tickets available 30 minutes before program



Programs for Adults

Morning Yoga - Select Thurs at 10:30am. Relax with our free classes for all levels. June 4th & 18th, July 2nd & 16th

Writer's Guild- 1st Wed of each month at 6:30pm. Connect with local authors and get feedback. June 3rd & July 1st

English Conversation Group – Select Saturdays 10:30am-12:30pm. All skill levels are welcome! June 6th & 20th

Knit & Crochet Group – 3rd Thurs of each month at 6:30pm. Needles, yarn and instruction are provided. June 18th

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

Planning for a Comfortable Retirement – June 18th at 6:30pm

Travis Audubon Society Programs

Hummingbirds of Central Texas: May 28th at 6pm

Amazing Purple Martins: June 25th at 6pm



WB Walking Club meets in front of KF Pool on Tuesdays & Thursdays and utilizes the Wells Branch MUD trails. The meet-up time has moved to 7am to beat the heat for summer. Questions? Contact Katie Hutcheson at khutcheson@wells-branchmud.com.

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.

Wells Branch Photo Club meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm (next is June 9th).

As the days get longer, and the light gets better we'll discuss, view and practice using "Magic Light", by Tim Cooper of RMSP (Rocky Mountain School of Photography).

June & July will feature more "hands on" activities--including setting back-button focusing and lens review. Be sure to bring your cameras to the meetings--we'll head outside after the instructional segment.

Check the WBNA website for location updates due to Rec. Center construction; we're tentatively scheduled to meet in one of the portables beside the Rec. Center on Shoreline.



American Heritage Girls

by Kevin Ward, AHG Troop 240 Charter Representative

AMERICAN
HERITAGE
GIRLS

AHG Troop 240 has been very busy this spring. The girls love to serve the community and have been doing so by visiting with our elderly at local nursing homes, cleaning toys for Hill Country Bible Church Pflugerville, making children's toys for the Nicaragua project, sponsoring a Teddy Bear Picnic to raise funds for Dell Children's Hospital and were invited by the Pflugerville Police Dept. to assist with their annual bike rodeo.

As we move towards summer, our girls and parents are excited about attending our AHG national conference, planning summer campouts and making a float for the July 4th parade. Most exhilarating is the addition of a new "spinoff troop" being established for the Blackhawk area on the east side of Pflugerville. We love supporting and encouraging our girls and as always, anyone interested in visiting our meetings to see what we are about is welcome to join us; meetings are held at Hill Country Bible Church Pflugerville. Contact our Troop Coordinator, Beth Gentilla, at bethdvg@austin.rr.com.

Greetings from Wells Branch Pack 728!

The boys and parents have had a GREAT year! Lots of learning, fun and hard work lead to many badges, belt loops and beads being earned. Some of the adventures that Pack 728 had were: Camp Mabry and Emma Long campouts, It's My Park Day cleanup and planting day, frisbee golf at WB Disc Golf Course, Pflugerville Fire Station #2 visit, APD's North Substation visit, Blue and Gold and Report to State. If you're looking for a Cub Scout Pack to join, please check us out! Contact us at: wbpack728@gmail.com and "like" us on Facebook: Wells Branch Pack 728

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KUDOS!

WB Rocks! Thank you, each of you, for taking time out of your weekend to deliver the Neighborhood News! Your efforts in helping build and maintain our community spirit are very much appreciated!

Dan Barnekow · Janel Bates · Bob Bauhs · Emily Berver · Joy Bryant · Debbie Brown · Karen Buerkle · Chris & Alex Connell · Miriam, Melissa & Briana Garate* · David Gezana · Cynthia Hannon · Betsey & Tessi Harper · George & Wanda Holcombe · Travers Hough · Deanna Johnson · Bruce Jones · Jennifer Jones · Gus Kohn · Dan, Kim, Brendan & Sarah Lanicek · Tammy Le · Sherrie Lindig · Brian Litke · Steve & Donna Lyons* · Siv, Jyoti & Arjuna Manda · Joan & Dave Mead · Mekala Padmanabhan · Arlie Pfeifer · Chris Plekenpol · Leela Rathi · Sharon Richardson · Alice Sears · Sonya Shaffer · Ralph Simon · Virgil Smith · Mona & Gayle Speranza · Marie Streusand · Debby Thompson · Jill & J.R. Traffanstedt · Jesse & Daisy Valdez · David & Donita Ward · Linda Wright

**Delivered more than one section*

A special thank you to Linda Baird, Janet Maxey & Debby Thompson for the hours spent inserting Eco Fair/Extreme Clean & Garage Sale flyers prior to distribution.

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 to learn more about: **Stuff-2-Do Summer Day Camp, Volleyball Clinics, Basketball Clinics, Art Mini-Camps and Swim Lessons.**

Don't wait! Registration fills fast!

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TIME: 6:30-8:00pm, every WEDNESDAY, starting JUNE 3 through JULY 8 at the Pflugerville Recreation Center, 400 Immanuel Drive, Pflugerville. To register or request more information, call Clay Leben at 512-251-0200 or email cleben@gmail.com. Powerful Tools for Caregivers is a project of AGE of Central Texas through a generous grant from St. David's Foundation. Visit <http://www.caregiverucentx.org/>

Athlos Leadership Academy by Traci Synatschk

As another successful school year comes to a close, Athlos is already preparing for a record breaking third year. With hundreds of new applicants, many grades are already waitlisted. The combination of traditional academics, cutting edge athletic encouragement and focus on core value traits is resonating very well with local residents. This year Athlos served over 750 children in grades Pre-K 4 - 9th. Next year we will expand to 10th grade, adding 11th and 12th over the following two years. If you, or someone you know, is interested in exploring charter school education, please visit www.athlosaustin.org. Over the summer Althos is also working hard to establish a library for the school. We are taking donations of gently loved books appropriate for 2nd-9th grade. If you have books you would like to donate, please contact Traci Synatschk, tracisyn@gmail.com.

WBE Spring Festival

What a HUGE success!! Thank you to all who came out to support Wells Branch Elementary (WBE) School by attending our 10th Annual Spring Festival & Silent Auction in April. We had live music, great food, and awesome stuff to do. The Austin Police Department helicopter even made an appearance for the festival by landing on campus and letting the kids check out the cockpit!

This event is the biggest fundraiser for the WBE PTA each year. And, it would not be possible without the help of our amazing volunteers and all in our community! We would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you who donated your time, your services, or your goods. You helped make the **10th Annual Spring Festival & Silent Auction** such a success! We hope to see you again next spring!

WBE Farmer's Market by Dianne Koehler

The 5th grade farmer's market at Wells Branch Elementary has far exceeded our expectations this year both in the varieties we grew and the tremendous community support we had. We are looking forward to investing our profits in more beds for the garden for next year. **THANK YOU, Wells Branch!**



Northwest Elementary News!

by Betsey Harper, Co-President NWE PTO

The school year is just about over and your kids need a good break to run wild and free. I

know, we all need that break from the craziness that the end of the school year brings as we transition into summer. But, as a parent, you've put in hard work to get your students on a path to reading and learning success during the school year. Did you know that research shows children can lose up to three months of reading progress over the summer months, and that loss has a cumulative, long-term effect? For example, by the end of 6th grade, children who consistently lose reading skills over the summer will be two years behind their classmates.

Many schools in our area have returned to the required summer reading list to encourage students to read, but that can often make reading seem more of a chore than a pleasure, for both kids and parents. Fortunately, our community library offers a summer reading incentive program that can help—and it's free! Rather than a list of required reading or suggested reading that 'meets academic needs,' we should offer our kids a list of 'books you won't be able to put down' to keep them engaged in summer reading.

Research from the University of Tennessee found that allowing children to pick out their own books or reading materials not only helped close the summer reading gap, it worked just as effectively as summer school. The results show children will read more and ultimately learn more with this freedom of reading choice.

Here are some other ways and suggestions for keeping your students reading over summer break.

- 1-Follow your kid's teacher classroom reading. Most classroom teachers read a book or two throughout the school year. Find out if it was part of a series or if the author has other books.
- 2-Become your child's summer reading partner. Build on what they like - dinosaurs, animals, sports, superheroes, music and more—so that you can have fun and interact meaningfully with your children while helping to strengthen their reading skills.
- 3-Limit electronic gaming time. Instead, download a good book for them to read, even if it is on MineCraft. Remember, reading is reading.
- 4-Be creative. Have your child help write out grocery lists, errand lists, or even create schedules. If you don't call it reading and writing time or a chore, kids are more likely to help, enjoy it, and want to continue.
- 5-Make it fun. Planning a trip to the zoo, aquarium, or new waterpark in Pflugerville? Pull up the websites and let them map directions, read all about it, and create a written list of things they want to see or do.

Reading for pleasure is one of the building blocks needed for young people to grow into healthy, productive adults. Have a safe and reading engaged summer!



Project Graduation for WB 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. We thank you for supporting the efforts of these nonprofit, parent-led groups who are working so hard for our WB seniors.

Cedar Ridge High School • Project Graduation

This is the last group of WB Seniors at CRHS—so please support our kids and send them off with a night of great fun! Our committee of parent volunteers set the fundraising goal high to allow all of our graduates the opportunity to attend the Main Event party FREE (it costs about \$71/student to pay for the event venue and bus transportation), unfortunately, our goal was not met. It's not too late to support a safe night of celebration for these seniors by ordering a Legacy Brick, providing gift cards or by making a donation. **Legacy Bricks and donations may be made on our website: CRHSProjectGraduation.org.** If you have gift cards or other donations for the event, you may call Pam for pickup at 512-925-5309. Thanks for supporting the CRHS Class of 2015!!

Connally High School • Cougar Celebration 2015

Thank you, Wells Branch! By Mary Hale

WOW!!! Thanks SO much for all the great donations to the Goodwill Drive for Connally High School Project Graduation during the April Extreme Clean Day! We raised \$2,000 to go towards the big event and keeping the kids safe! We not only thank everyone for the donations but also the fantastic staff at the MUD and all the volunteers for helping us to unload and load the massive amount of donations we received! What a great community we have here at Wells Branch!!

McNeil High School • Project Graduation 2015

You can support MHS Project Grad when you shop. Go to the MHS-PG website visit <http://mcneilprojectgrad.ch2v.com/> which features a store and a link to AmazonSmile where 0.5% of eligible purchases are donated to McNeil HS Project Graduation.

Garden Tool Donations Needed for WBE Green Team

by Tara Fisher-Muñoz

The community garden project by the UT Enactus Group and the Go Green Team PTA at WB Elementary is moving forward and will likely be ready for "business" by this summer—perfect timing for Fall gardening! Donations of gardening tools & supplies (shovels, rakes, trowels, watering cans, compost, top soil, mulch, etc...) are needed. Please contact me at vid-agreenconsulting@gmail.com if you would like to donate to this project. We would greatly appreciate any help!

The vision for this garden is that it grows to serve our 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>

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BSA Troop 1409 by SM Rich Michelson & ASM Greg Jewett

The Scouts have been busy this spring! March was the perfect month to be outside.

Troop and Crew 1409 traveled to Inks Lake where they backpacked, hiked and went canoeing. An Inks Lake naturalist and Park Rangers worked with the youth providing education and joining them on a canoeing trip. In all, the Scouts hiked 10 miles and canoed 2 miles.



During the month of April, Troop 1409 participated in the Blackland Prairie Camporee competition. Based on a Hunger Games theme, the Scouts competed in archery, Tomahawk throwing, orienteering and other skills. The Troop took 2nd Place in First Aid and 1st Place in Orienteering in the district-wide competition. The Venturing Crew participated in the Shooting Sports Day event where they were taught firearm safety and usage.



Evan Jewett, Life Scout of Troop 1409 went through his Ordeal and was inducted in the Order of the Arrow. Life Scouts Andrew Michelson and Sean Johnston and leaders Greg Jewett and Rich Michelson received the Brotherhood within the Order of the Arrow.



Troop 1409 also made time to give back to the community by providing acclaimed childcare with the **Youth Recycled Cardboard Box Construction Area** during Eco-Fair and volunteered their muscle for the Friends of the Library Neighborhood Garage Sale, where they were a tremendous help with both set-up and tear-down.



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

Edward Jones
 MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Cub Scout Pack 140

Cub Scout Pack 140 is the original Cub Scout group in Wells Branch, sponsored by the WB Homestead Corporation, and supports the traditional scouting experience. The Cubs have had an exciting year and most recently participated in the Homestead Pioneer Festival. The Cubs and their families spent the weekend of May 2nd camping at Enchanted Rock and are looking forward to their Graduation Ceremony on May 30. Upcoming planned events include the Pool & Pizza Party and movie night on June 6 and support of the WB 4th festival. The Pack and Dens meet several times every month and if you are interested in having your son in a great neighborhood program please see our web site at www.pack140.org for link to request more information.



Venture Crew 1409 by Advisor Jill Douglass

Right on the heels of the Spring Break trip to Palo Duro Canyon, Crew 1409 backpacked, canoed, and hiked Inks Lake State Park. They only got lost in the woods once and mostly stayed upright in their canoes. April saw the crew participating in Shooting Sports Day at Lost Pines. This event involved instruction in archery, black powder, and rifle shooting.

The big news for the crew is that they secured a highly sought-after trek to Swampbase for summer 2016. This trip involves a 60 mile kayaking adventure in the Atchafalaya Swamp in Louisiana. In order to afford the trip you'll start seeing our crew members fundraising in the form of childcare during community Casino Nights, face painting during Movies in the Park, and possibly a garage sale or two.



An important component of venturing is community support. Our members volunteered at the Friends of the Library garage sale, the community Eco Fair, and the Youth Fishing Tournament. If you see us out and about (we wear green shirts), stop by and say hello!

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

EXTREME CLEAN SPRING! INCREDIBLE

participation WB! by Debby Thompson, President, WBNA

Extreme Clean Spring 2015 was a huge success! 332 households participated with many making multiple trips! We collected RECORD BREAKING quantities of EVERYTHING!

The WBNA would like to thank the WB MUD Board and District Manager for supporting our quarterly recycling efforts. This is such a huge benefit for our community and our volunteers could not do it without your assistance and the use of your facilities, trucks and staff to transport the hazardous waste. It takes a team attitude and team effort to serve Wells Branch. Thank you!

A special THANK YOU to MUD Maintenance Supervisor Andy Rankine and his staff: Manny, Abraham, and Jacob, for their extraordinary efforts and MUD Board Director Betsey Harper and staff member Gloria Barba for volunteering their time.

Special thanks to Dianne Koehler for collecting and repurposing several hundred pounds of yard chemicals, Donna Howe for organizing the Drug Take Back and the UT Pharmacy students for donating their time to this event.

Most of all, we thank our volunteers! These folks planned, organized and gave up their Saturday to keep toxins out of the landfill and help their community out: Ed Peterson, Debby Thompson, Chuck Walters, Lara Bennett, Tom Cheshire, Marie Streusand, Donna Malone, and Linda Baird.

We'd like to send a special shout out to the Connally High School Project Grad Team led by Mary Hale and Lisa Rankine - Y'all were awesome! Congrats on filling more than two truckloads for Goodwill and earning \$2000 for Project Grad!

Our next quarterly hazardous waste collection is Saturday, July 11 and will include Bulk Trash, Batteries, Oil, Paint, Anti-freeze, Metal, Electronics, Styrofoam, Easter Seals, and Habitat for Humanity. You may also drop off pet supplies (towels, bedding, crates, bowls) for the Humane Society and hotel-size toiletries for distribution to the homeless.

The next Drug Take Back and Shredding will be Saturday, October 10.

For photos of all events, please visit the WBNA Facebook page.

Thank You Wells Branch for a Fun Spring Soccer Season!

by Chris Connell, WBSA Registrar

We want to thank everyone for another fun and successful Wells Branch Soccer Association spring season. The season would not have been possible without the help of our great volunteers, coaches, assistant coaches, managers, families, and most importantly, the 200+ WBSA players.

Please make sure to check the WBSA website, wellsbranch-soccer.com for updates regarding the fall 2015 registration. We expect to open registration in the coming weeks and will post the open date on our website <http://wellsbranchsoccer.weebly.com/> as well as Facebook. Keep playing soccer and have a great summer. See you on the fields soon!



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Premium Rain Barrels to be delivered to WB!

The Wells Branch MUD and a local manufacturer, Senox, have partnered to bring you good prices on rain barrels that will be delivered right here to the neighborhood for easy pick up.

There are four different sizes of barrels, a 50-gallon, flat back barrel style (available in 6 colors); a 54-gallon completely round barrel (3 colors to choose from); and a really rugged barrel with internal lining to keep things dark—this one comes in 28 colors and two sizes (100 and 250 gallon). These last two are definitely tanks for the *backyard*.

Order the barrels by June 13th and pick up on June 20th between 9:00am and Noon at 13905 Thermal Drive. ALL barrels MUST be picked up during the designated time frame. If you are ordering a larger sized barrel and need help getting it from Thermal Drive to your Wells Branch home, contact Shelley Palmer at spifala@gmail.com.

To find more information on the barrels and to order, visit: <http://www.wellsbranchmud.com/rainbarrels>.

You can get further savings of .50 a gallon of your purchased rain barrel by requesting the water harvesting rebate, find information and the form here: <http://www.austintexas.gov/departments/rainwater-harvesting-rebates>

Please follow the ACC guidelines for rainwater harvesting equipment installation and send in the associated form, find them here: http://www.wellsbranchmud.com/general_information/architectural-control-committee.html

WBNA Easter Egg Hunt - THANK YOU!

Eggstra special THANKS go out to Lara Bennett for her devotion to our Easter Egg Hunt each year! Lara, WBNA Treasurer, plans and executes this event meticulously each year and we at the WBNA are incredibly grateful for her!

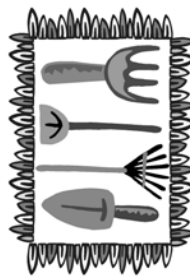
Clay Bennett, our ever patient Easter Bunny, we THANK YOU! You were wonderful!! And a big THANK YOU to Dianne Koehler for planning and running the Easter craft table!

Thank you, Chuck Walters, for manning the microphone and keeping the event as orderly as possible.

We'd also like to thank all our neighbors who volunteered their time stuffing and hiding over 8000 eggs and helping with the event from start to finish: Lara & Clay Bennett; Debby Thompson; Chuck Walters; Tom Cheshire; Linda Baird; Donna Malone; Janet Maxey; Dianne Koehler; Madonna Johnson; Gus Kohn; Emily, James, and Sarah Berver; Marisa, Mischa, & Tasha Sawatphadungkij; and Betsey & Tessi Harper. You all made the Easter Egg Hunt a true community event!

Visit the WBNA Facebook page for all of the photos. Look under "Photos", "Albums", then "2015 WBNA Easter Egg Hunt" - Feel free to download pictures of your family, tag pictures, and add any of your own. Special thanks to our photographers extraordinaire: Madonna Johnson, Debby Thompson, Shelley Palmer and Gus Kohn.

THANK YOU ALL for making and keeping Wells Branch such a GREAT place to live and raise a family!



Garden Guild News

Our annual Garden Tour, "Behind the Gates" was spectacular as always! Thank you Dianne Koehler for organizing the event and serving as tour guide. Most especially, we'd like to thank the neighbors who welcomed us into their yards: Celeste & Parker Richardson, Chandra Patel, Rachel & Brian LeBansky, Dianne &

George Koehler, Elaine & David Betterton, Vicky & Joe Linsalata and Tracy & Ralph Simon. Your gardens were inspirational! Our tour also included the school garden at Wells Branch Elementary - Thank you to all of the volunteers who make this learning experience possible for our children! Visit the WBNA Facebook page for more garden tour photos:

https://www.facebook.com/pages/WBNA-Wells-Branch-Neighborhood-Association/205101652856649?sk=photos_stream *With this link, you don't have to belong to FB to view the pictures.

June 20, we intend to have a tomato tasting event; with this year's weather, there should be a lot to test out. Bring them raw or create your best and bring it to the meeting to share.

The Garden Guild is open to anyone who gardens, whether in the dirt or in your dreams! We'll be meeting this summer at the WB Annex, 14611 Wells Port Drive, while the WB Rec. Center is under construction. Meetings begin at 11:00am, but come early to visit and swap plants and other goodies.

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& Bill Payment!

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FOL Garage Sale a Huge Success!

by Gus Kohn, President, FOL

The Fourth Annual Friends of the Library Garage Sale on Saturday April 18th was yet again a resounding success, generating about \$2000 for library programs. Iffy weather status caused serious concern the night before but every vendor and customer we spoke with wholeheartedly enjoyed the (thankfully) good weather and crowds of people. It was a fun day with people attending from all over.

Boy Scout Troop and Venture Crew 1409 were on hand to volunteer in the morning to put out tables and assist vendors in their set up as well as in the afternoon after the sale to aid in breaking down and helping vendors close up their booths.

The Constable Deputies from Travis County Precinct #2 and the Explorers from Post 711 served an essential role in traffic control and assuring safe pedestrian passage to and from the sale, for which we cannot thank them enough.

Thanks to all who donated items for sale in the FOL booth from which we raised over \$500; your contribution is greatly appreciated. I'd also like to thank the many area merchants who donated concessions for our sale: Starbucks in Pflugerville, Papa John's Pizza on WB Pkwy, Ramos Restaurant on Merrittown at 1325, and HEB in Pflugerville on WB Pkwy, and Kona Ice as well as several FOL Members who donated items for the concession stand and other supplies.



A special thank you to the Wells Branch MUD Board and Staff for their support providing the 6ft. vendor tables and drop-off/pick-up of the same and to Easter Seals for faithfully showing up to collect the remnants of the sale.

As President of the Friends of the WB Library, I'd like to thank the other volunteers without whom this sale would not have been possible. My sincere gratitude goes out in no particular order to volunteers: Chuck Walters, Doug Schwartz, Dave Mead, Dianne Koehler, Ebony Hollis, Bailey Bryant, Gary Bryant, Chance Bryant, Linda Casper, Janet Maxey, Ralph Simon, Debby Thompson, Debbie Brown, Donita Ward, Mekala Padmanabhan and Kay Peterson as well as FOL Board members: Joy Hall Bryant, Madonna Johnson, Tracy Simon and Joan Mead. Any omissions were not intentional.

How about that for a community coming together? Without this fabulous community involvement, this great success could not occur. Thank you, Wells Branch!

For more photos of this great event, visit our Facebook album: <http://tinyurl.com/FOL-GS2015>

FOL Tax Protest Workshop Info

The FOL would like to thank Tammy Le, Realtor® for co-hosting the **How to Successfully Protest your Tax Appraisal** workshop. You may reach the speaker, Laura Casey, Senior Property Tax Consultant, at laura@lauracasey.com or visit her website: <http://www.lcasey.com/>. Material discussed in the session packets may be found at: <http://www.familypair.com/website/blog/>



Autoimmune diseases are on the rise. The Friends of the Wells Branch Community Library is proud to sponsor:

Inspiring Hope for those with RA and other Autoimmune Diseases

Think powerfully ... Think positively ... As if every moment depends on it. Because it does. This the wisdom of Lora Tucker Kaasch, who will present her message of hope in honor of **Arthritis Awareness Month**. Attendees will receive a copy of Lora's eBook "Thrive with RA: Build Momentum and Create a Life You Love," which is applicable to almost every chronic illness. Having a positive mindset as well as nutrition and fitness tips will be introduced. Lora will also share her patient checklist which includes important questions to ask the doctor to ensure having an active role in the health care process.

This free program will take place at the Wells Branch Library on May 31 at 3:30 p.m. Use this link to register: <http://hope-withra.eventbrite.com>

How do I Find Event Photos?

For each Wells Branch event, the WBNA and WB Photo Club have volunteer photographers on hand. These photos are then posted to the WBNA Facebook page for neighbors to share with family and friends. If you're on Facebook, you can find these albums by clicking on Photos, Albums, and scrolling until you find the appropriate album as they're stored in reverse chronological order.

So, you want to see the photos, but you're not on Facebook? Good news! There's still a way for you to access these pictures. A complete list of 2015 links is available at wbna.us. If you enter in the links listed, Facebook will allow you access to the corresponding file. Click on the first photo of the album and then continue to browse and download as desired. Each album link will have to be accessed individually; you can only navigate between albums if you have a Facebook account. Below are some of the albums you'll find! Please use the "Contact Us" form on the WBNA site if you need access to albums not listed there. We hope you enjoy the pictures!

Direct links available at wbna.us -

- Quarterly Extreme Clean • January 17, 2015
- WB MUD Valentine's Day Dance • February 14, 2015
- WBNA Elected Official Reception • February 26, 2015
- WB MUD St. Patrick's Day Parade & Concert in the Park • March 17, 2015
- WB MUD Dog Fair • March 28, 2015
- WBNA Easter Bunny Photos • April 4, 2015
- WBNA Easter Egg Hunt & Crafts in the Park • April 4, 2015
- Extreme Clean Spring! • April 11, 2015
- FOL Community Garage Sale • April 18, 2015
- Homestead Pioneer Fest • April 25, 2015
- WB MUD Spring Youth Fishing Tournament • May 2, 2015
- WB Eco Fair • May 9, 2015
- WB Garden Guild Tour • May 16, 2015

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Rec. Center Construction & Customer Service Update

Beginning June 8, 2015, WB MUD Customer Service will move to 2106 Klattenhoff Drive to accommodate Rec. Center construction. New hours for both sites listed below.

WB MUD Customer Service • 2106 Klattenhoff Drive

Monday-Friday 8am-5pm
 Saturday-Sunday Closed

New Recreation Center Hours • 3000 Shoreline Drive

Monday-Friday 6am-9am and 5pm-10pm
 Saturday 8am-8pm
 Sunday 1pm-8pm



Reduce • Reuse • Recycle It's a way of life!

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 July 11. For Guidelines and a printable schedule, see: <http://wbna.us/community/recycling-calendar-info/>.

Curbside Recycling Pickup only occurs every other week on regular trash collection days. For a complete list of recyclable items and a printable 2015-2016 calendar, please visit:

<http://wbna.us/community/recycling-calendar-info/> or stop by the WB MUD Customer Service Office beginning June 8th at 2106 Klattenhoff (temporary location while the Rec. Center is being renovated) for a free copy.

Clip & Save Recycling Calendar

June 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				

WB MUD Events

Memorial Day Casino Night

Saturday, May 23 • 6-9pm

WB Rec. Center • 3000 Shoreline Drive

We have a winner! It's Wells Branch! From 6-9pm, the MUD presents an adults-only evening of gaming for our residents ages 21 and up ONLY; IDs will be checked at the door. Join your neighbors at 3000 Shoreline Drive as the MUD transforms the Recreation Center into a casino using professional tables and dealers. Stick around following the gaming for more fun and the opportunity to "spend" your winnings on a variety of prizes.

New this year: Venture Crew 1409 will be providing child-care on-site for donations.



Splash Day!

Sunday, May 24 • Noon-4pm

KF Pool • 2106 Klattenhoff Drive

Free entry to the pool! Lots of fun giveaway items! Learn about safety in, on or around water! Along with learning stations, there will be fun and safe pool games supervised by the lifeguards in the pool/diving well. Burgers, hot dogs, sausage wraps, chips, sodas, water and Powerade will be sold by the Wells Branch MUD Armada Swim Team so come hungry!

Teen Pool Parties!

June 13 | July 17 | July 31 • 9pm-Midnight

KF Pool • 2106 Klattenhoff Drive

\$3 with Rec. Tag | \$5 without Rec. Tag

For the third year in a row, WB MUD be hosting late night teen pool parties at the KF Pool with music & pool games setup. Pizza and Drinks will be provided. Parties are open to anyone between the ages of 12 and 16.



Movies in the Park

June 6 • *Big Hero Six* | July 11 •

Paddington | August 8 • *Maleficent*

Wells Branch MUD presents Movies in the Park at Katherine Fleischer Park.

Admission is free. Ice cream will be available for purchase from Cub Scout Pack 140 and Boy Scout Troop 1409 will be selling drinks. Bring your blankets and chairs and enjoy these family events. Parking is limited so residents are encouraged to walk or ride a bike. Pre-movie activities start at 8pm with the movies beginning at dusk.



Wells Branch Eco Fair

WB Eco Fair a HUGE Success!

See WBNA Facebook page for photos.

Watch for a section in the June 27th issue of the WBNA Neighborhood News!

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WB Armada - Swim Season is HERE!

by Anne Bennett, President, WBA

The WB Armada (WBA) swim team kicked off its 26th season with afternoon practices starting May 4. We will switch to morning practices when the MUD switches to its summer pool schedule on June 8, once school is out for the year.

Our home meets this year are on, May 23, May 30, and June 20. Many of you with kids on the team will already be there, but if you're not, feel free to come by in the mornings and cheer them on, and while you're there stop by our concession stand for some of the wonderful food. WBA's concessions team are all volunteers, and have gained a reputation over the past few years as providing quality food at a low price in the league. All concessions proceeds benefit the WBA.

Also, the WBA board and concessions team will be volunteering at the MUD's Splash Day at KF Pool on Sunday, May 24, from 12-4 pm. The event looks like fun, so please join us!

Finally, whether or not you have kids or your kids swim, the WBA is a great way to get the word out about your business. This year we have over 230 swimmers registered from 140 families from WB and surrounding neighborhoods. If you're interested in sponsoring the team for this or next year, or in donating in some other way, please go to <https://wells-branch.swimtopia.com/>, and talk to Scott Casper or Anne Bennett (links to email addresses provided on the website) about a sponsorship. WBA is a 501(c)(3) organization.

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

Summer Art Mini-Camps

Let your kids do something **FUN & CREATIVE** this summer! Register **NOW** for Summer Art Mini-Camps, led by Dianne Koehler. Camps are held at the WB MUD Annex, 14611 Wells Port Drive. Each camp consists of three half-day sessions (Tu/W/Th) for \$45 (40% of the fee is dedicated to programs in WB). **Detailed course information is available at <http://tinyurl.com/Mini-Art2015>.**

Register through WB MUD at 2106 Klattenhoff Drive or by phone: 512-251-9814. Or register online at:

BEGINNERS: <http://tinyurl.com/beginArt>

JUNIORS: <http://tinyurl.com/JnrArt15>

Beginning Artists (age 4 ½-7-going into K/1st gr) 9-11:30am

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 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 |
| 7/21-23 | Back in Time - Pioneering at Camp |
| 8/4-6 | Fantasy - Castles, Princesses, Dragons |

Junior Artists (age 7 1/2-12 completed 1st grade) 12-3:30pm

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 6/9-11 | Painting and Drawing I |
| 6/16-18 | NOT your Momma's Art Camp! |
| 6/23-25 | Our Planet /Our World |
| 6/30-7/2 | Stars 'n Stripes |
| 7/7-9 | Wild & Wacky Science Art |
| 7/14-16 | Painting and Drawing II - Cartoons & Super Heroes |
| 7/21-23 | Back in Time - Pioneering at Camp |
| 7/28-7/30 | Food Art from Color to Style NOTE: Special Time 10 am-1:30 pm ***Not for kids with allergies |
| 8/4-6 | Painting and Drawing III - Fantasy |



Community Calendar

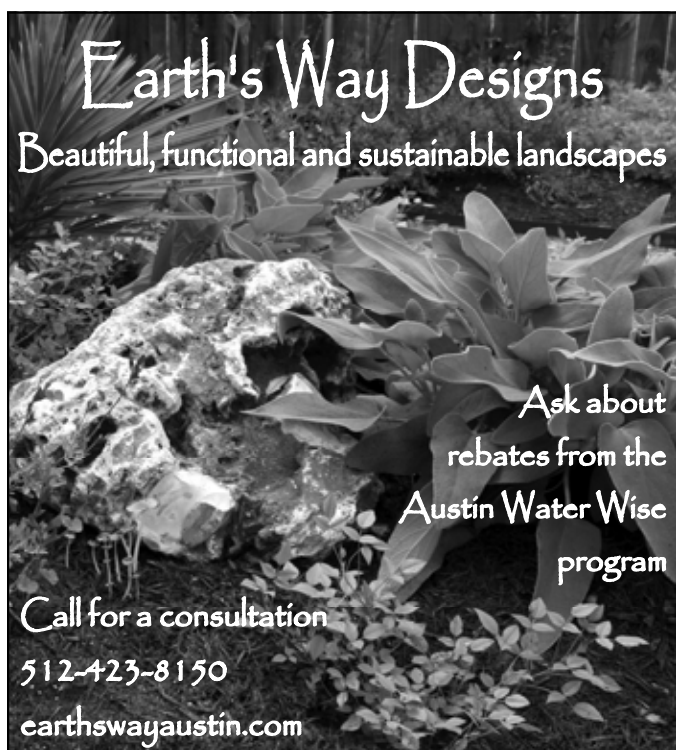
May 23, 6-9pm: WB MUD Casino Night - Age 21+, WBRC
 May 24, 12-4pm: Splash Day!, KF Pool
 May 31, 3:30pm: FOL - Inspiring Hope - RA Speaker, WBCL
 June 1, 9am: RRISD ES #34 Groundbreaking, 2800 Sauls Dr.
 June 1, 5pm: LAST DAY to APPEAL TAX APPRAISAL, Travis Cty CAD
 June 6, Dusk: WB MUD Movies in the Park - *Big Hero Six*, KF
 June 8: **WB MUD CUSTOMER SERVICES MOVES** - 2106 Klattenhoff
 June 13 8am-5pm: WB MUD BULK TRASH ONLY, 13905 Thermal
 June 13: Deadline to order Rain Barrel for June 20 Pick Up
 June 13, 9pm-Midnight: WB MUD Teen Pool Party, KF Pool
 June 20, 9am-Noon: Rain Barrel Pick Up, 13905 Thermal Drive
 June 20, 11am: Garden Guild - Tomato Fest, WBRC
 June 20, 6pm: Open Ears Concert - *Slaid Cleaves* - St. Andrews
 June 27: Next WBNA Neighborhood News delivered!
 July 4: FourthFest - Details in June Issue!
 July 11: Bulk Trash & Hazardous Waste Collection
 July 18: 2nd Annual Day of Disc Golf for Veterans

Recurring -

OA meetings, Tuesdays, 6pm at St. Andrew's
 Silver Branchers Thursdays, 1-3pm WBAnnex on Wells Port
 WB Bird Walks will resume in September
 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

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



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 — "We were very pleased with Tammy...she was always available to answer questions and responded in a timely and professional manner" -Tam, Wells Branch Seller & Central Austin Buyer

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- 2106 Nathan: Immaculate with granite counters & lovely landscaping, \$215,500— JUST SOLD!
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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

May 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