



# Neighborhood News

News and information for the residents of Wells Branch.  
Vol 22, Issue 4, July 2014

## 4th Fest— Celebrate Independence Day the Wells Branch Way! by Debby Thompson

Roll out the Red, White & Blue! If you haven't decorated yet, you better get busy! Let's show our Wells Branch Spirit. Hang your flags out NOW. Let everybody know that you're ready to celebrate! Meet in front of the community center at 9:30am on July 4th. The parade takes off at 10am. If you've never been to one of our parades before, then you should probably know we have decorated bikes, wagons, trailers, DOGS, KIDS, hats, motorcycles and floats. It's a grand event! If you wish to include a float in this year's parade, please contact the MUD at 512-251-9814.

### Parade Route

- Depart Community Center → West on Klattenhoff Dr.
- Right on Alpha Collier Dr. → Left on Great Willow Dr.
- Left on Spring Wagon Ln. → Left on Gold Fish Pond
- Right on Klattenhoff Dr. → Left on Merriltown Dr.
- Left on Taylor Simonetti Ave. → Left on Surrender Ave.
- Return to KF Park on Klattenhoff Dr.

### When the parade returns to the Community Center, a FULL day of events begins.

There will be children's activities throughout the park from 11-2pm. Come win prizes at games like beanbag toss, balloon darts, milk bottle throw, soccer kick, and washer toss. Free admission to KF Pool and water games from 12-3pm. The Kiddy Train will be all revved up for the Fourth and giving rides there will also be a balloon clown on hand from 11-3pm to entertain. Caricature artists provided by Wells Branch Community Church will be in the courtyard from 11-2pm and there'll be a rock wall and bungee bouncer for the kids to play on in the park from 11-3pm. Be sure and look for the dunk tank and capture the moment in the 4thFest photo booth. Cool off with face painting by Dianne Koehler inside the CC and visit the WBNA Silent Auction. **ALL FOR FREE!!!**

Live entertainment starts at 11am and goes through 5pm under the big tent. There'll be a ventriloquist, The Billy Holt Band, a magician and then MORE music! Throughout the day, concessions will be available offering a variety of items to enjoy. For a complete list of food and entertainment, visit [www.wbna.us](http://www.wbna.us).



The Silent Auction is back this year and benefits the WBNA. Money raised from this event funds the Easter Egg Hunt, National Night Out, our participation in Halloween Trunk or Treat, Friday night at Luminary Fest and all of the educational and safety seminars we put on throughout the year. Come check out all the wonderful

gift baskets and gift certificates donated by WB friends, neighbors and businesses and start placing your bids as soon as the parade returns. Contact Gus Kohn at [silentauction@wbna.us](mailto:silentauction@wbna.us) or 512-568-0774 if you have an item or service you'd like to donate or if you'd like to volunteer at the Silent Auction. We can **ALWAYS** use a hand!

As the afternoon winds down, we hope you'll join us as Wells Branch Celebrates Independence Day with a fireworks show to remember. The display will be fired over Willow Bend Pool at the corner of Sauls Drive and Bratton Lane beginning at 9:30pm. You can view the show anywhere along Shoreline Drive, Long Vista Drive, Bratton Lane and even Mills Pond. No parking or spectators will be allowed on Sauls Drive from Bratton Lane to Crissom Drive. Parking will be limited so we encourage residents to walk or bike utilizing the various bike lanes and hike and bike trail.

**Come show your spirit, and remember - YOU make Wells Branch GREAT!**

*\*Fireworks display is subject to change or cancellation depending on weather conditions so check our website for updates.*

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Real Estate

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pwachholz@homecity.com  
512-925-5309

Christopher Stapleton,  
25+ years Realtor®  
cstapleton@homecity.com  
512-638-0392  
www.stapletonofaustin.com



## Spring Youth Fishing Tournament

It was a gorgeous day and the pond was well stocked, but the fish just didn't cooperate. For the first time ever in the history of WB youth fishing tournaments, not a single fish was caught! Still, our WB families enjoyed their time together.

The WB MUD sponsors two youth fishing tournaments a year. The next one is scheduled for October 11. Texas Parks and Wildlife will stock the pond with catfish one week prior to the tournament.

For more fantastic photos, visit the WBNA Facebook page. The WBNA thanks Madonna Johnson & Kristen Johnson for spending their Saturday morning taking these wonderful photos to share with our neighborhood. You are APPRECIATED!



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\*Some restrictions apply. Not valid with other offers. Not to be combined with insurance. Offer expires 12/31/2014.

\*\* When a first complete pair is purchased at regular price. Some restrictions apply.

Not valid with other offers. Not to be combined with insurance. Offer expires 12/31/2014.

## FIREWORKS REMINDER:



These restrictions remain in effect at **ALL** times even if the County is not enforcing a fireworks or burn ban.

**USE OF FIREWORKS ON MUD PROPERTY is prohibited at all times. This includes all MUD facilities, parks, trails, greenbelts, the Pond, drainage detention areas, the veloway, and the grassy area located at Robert I. Walker and Charla Circle. For any questions concerning firework use on district property, please contact the MUD office at 251-9814.**

In addition, Texas law prohibits the discharge of fireworks on school district property. The Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 2154, Subchapter F, Section 2154.251 (a) (1), states that a person may not explode or ignite fireworks within 600 feet of any church, a hospital other than a veterinary hospital, an asylum, a licensed child care center, or a public or private primary or secondary school or institution of higher education unless the person receives authorization in writing from that organization.



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## Lee Cramer, Agent

2013 Wells Branch Pkwy, #107  
Austin, TX 78728

**Bus: 512-251-3473**

Lee.Cramer.b4hp@statefarm.com

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# SAFETY FIRST

## Fireworks Safety Tips

- DO NOT LET YOUR CHILDREN BUY FIREWORKS WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION
- Only buy from reliable fireworks sellers
- Never experiment or attempt to make your own fireworks
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place
- Find a smooth, flat surface --away from the house and other buildings, or dry leaves and grass
- Be sure to have water handy in case of a malfunction or fire
- ALWAYS HAVE ADULT SUPERVISION!
- NEVER ALLOW CHILDREN TO PLAY WITH OR IGNITE FIREWORKS
- Always read and follow label directions, warnings, and instructions
- Be considerate of your neighbors
- Only ignite fireworks outdoors, and away from houses and other buildings
- Be sure other people are out of range before lighting fireworks
- Light only one firework at a time
- Never try to re-light fireworks that have not fully functioned
- Never give fireworks to small children, even sparklers can cause serious burns
- Never throw fireworks at another person, vehicle, or animal
- Never carry fireworks in your pocket
- Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers
- Dispose of spent fireworks properly - **CLEAN UP the STREET**



## RRISD Bond & WB Elementary News

All three RRISD school bonds passed. WB will be getting a new elementary school at the corner of Sauls and Bratton Ln. RRISD was closed for summer vacation when we went to print so there are no updates beyond what we learned at the public meeting in May. Offices reopen July 7. Please visit our website or watch the Facebook page or Google Group for updates regarding the WBE Welcome Walk, construction of the new elementary school, and associated committees we expect the District to form. A full update will be in the September issue of the WBNA Neighborhood News.

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE**  
to Donate or Volunteer  
at the WBNA Silent  
Auction on the 4th!

Email [SilentAuction@wbna.us](mailto:SilentAuction@wbna.us)  
or call 512-990-3693 for info.



## TEJAS LIQUOR #2

2113 Wells Branch Pkwy, Ste 700, Austin, TX 78728

Phone: (512) 989-9437 • [www.tejasliquor2.com](http://www.tejasliquor2.com)

(Next to Raggedy Anne's Bar, Papa John's)

### PUBLIC NOTICE

"Tejas Liquor #2" is an independent store and is not affiliated with any other "Tejas Liquor". Since 2003, it has been serving the neighborhood under the same ownership. Our only other location is Dany's Liquor (Pflugerville, TX). Thank you for your continued patronage. - **Desh & Roopa**

### SPECIALS

#### WHISKEY

BLACK VELVET	
TOASTED CARAMEL/CINNAMON RUSH 750ML	\$10.99
BLACK VELVET RESERVE 1.75L	\$18.99
CROWN ROYAL 750ML/1.75L	\$25.99/\$52.99
GENTLEMAN JACK 750ML	\$25.99
GLENLIVET 12YR 750ML	
W/50ML EACH OF 15YR & 18YR	\$44.99
JACK DANIEL'S BLACK 750ML/1.75L	\$22.99/\$40.99
JAMESON 750ML/1.75L	\$24.99/\$48.99
JIM BEAM WHITE 750ML/1.75L	\$14.99/\$24.99
J.P. WISERS RYE/SPICED 750ML	\$15.99
WILD TURKEY 101 1.75L	\$35.99

#### VODKA

ABSOLUT 750ML	\$18.99
DEEP EDDY 750ML/1.75L	\$15.99/\$26.99
DRIPPING SPRINGS 1.75L	\$27.99
NEW AMSTERDAM REGULAR 750ML/1.75L	\$12.99/\$19.99
RUSSIAN STANDARD	
REG/PLATINUM/GOLD 375ML TRIO PACK	\$24.99
SKYY INFUSION 750ML (ALL FLAVORS)	\$15.99
SKYY 1.75L	\$23.99
SVEDKA REGULAR 1.75L	\$18.99
THREE OLIVES REGULAR 750ML	\$17.99
UV 1.75L	\$16.99

#### RUM/GIN

BACARDI 1.75L (SUPERIOR/GOLD)	\$20.99
KRAKEN BLACK SPICED 1.75L	\$24.99
SAILOR JERRY SPICED 1.75L	\$24.99
BEEFEATER 1.75L	\$33.99
BOMBAY SAPPHIRE 1.75L	\$38.99
TANQUERAY 1.75L	\$40.99

#### TEQUILA

1800 SILVER/REPOSADO 750ML/1.75L	\$23.99/\$41.99
ALTOS SILVER/REPOSADO 750ML	\$20.99
EL JIMADOR SILVER/REPO 750ML/1.75L	\$16.99/\$31.99
JOSE CUERVO GOLD 750ML WITH 1L MIXER	\$19.99
JOSE CUERVO GOLD 1.75L	\$36.99
MAESTRO DOBEL PREMIUM TEQUILA 750ML	\$35.99
MARGARITAVILLE GOLD/SILVER 1.75L W/1.75L MIXER	\$21.99
PEPE Z SILVER 750ML	\$24.99

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PAUL MASSON VS 750ML/1.75L	\$8.99/\$16.99
PAUL MASSON VSOP 750 ML	\$9.99

#### LIQUEUR

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Fri - Sat 10am-6pm  
Sun 1pm-6pm



### Book Clubs

The library hosts 5 book clubs each month. Newcomers are always welcome. Check the library's website or calendar to see what we're reading.

**Steamy Reads:** 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday at 6pm  
7/2 Caine's Reckoning by Sarah McCarty

**Clueless Mysteries:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 3pm  
7/20 An Evil Eye by Jason Goodwin

**Wine, Women and Words:** 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday at 7pm  
7/10 Julie and Romeo by Jeanne Ray

**Fantastic Fantasy:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 7pm  
7/10 Neverwhere by Neil Gaiman

**Graphic Novels:** (Ages 14+) 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at 1pm

**Adult Computer Classes- FREE!** Take charge of the digital domain with our knowledgeable instructors! *Registration required – Call or visit the library to sign up!*

-Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am- Word Intermediate  
-Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30am- PowerPoint Basics  
-Saturday, August 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am- Excel Basics

**English Conversation Group:** Saturdays at 10:30am  
July 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, August 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>: Build your English skills in a relaxed, comfortable environment! Discussions are led by a native English speaker, and all skill levels are welcome!



**Knitting Group:** Thursdays, July 17<sup>th</sup> and August 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm: Whether you're just learning the basics or refining your skills, our instructor can help you. We provide the needles and yarn!

**Resume Workshops:** Tailor yours to catch the employer's eye. *Registration required.*

-Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am  
-Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am

We also have individual career coaching sessions available. Register online at <http://wblibrary.eventbrite.com>



**The Million Page Challenge:** If Wells Branch Readers turn in logs for 1 million pages of reading between June 6<sup>th</sup> and August 9<sup>th</sup>, we'll have an Ice Cream Social to celebrate! All reading logs must be turned in by Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm!

**Find us on Facebook.** "Like" us to be linked for up-to-date information, contests, and more!



**Storytimes** June 7<sup>th</sup> through August 9<sup>th</sup>

*There will be no children's programs June 29- July 5*

Mondays- Baby Storytime, 10:30 (0-18m) & 11:15 (12-24m)

Tuesdays- Storytime and Craft, 6pm & 7pm

**\*NEW\*** Thursdays- Sign Language Storytime, 10:30am

Fridays- Storytimes, 10:30 (toddler) & 11:15 (preschool)

Saturdays- Family/French Storytime, 11am (alternates)



**Science is Magic with JD Stewart:** July 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am Use the Scientific Method and your imagination to create amazing illusions! Seating is limited. Register online at <http://wblibrary.eventbrite.com>.

**Wacky Science** (Ages 5+) - Mondays at 3:30pm through August 4<sup>th</sup>. Fun and messy science experiments. Space is limited; free tickets available at 3:00pm at the children's desk.



**Family Science Nights:** Thursdays at 6:00pm  
7/10 - Nature Connections: Texas Plants & Animals  
7/17 - Mad Science- live demonstrations and interactive fun!  
7/24 - Film: Earth  
7/31 - Film: Wings of Life  
8/7 - Film: African Cats



**Batman Day:** July 23<sup>rd</sup> - Join us for Batman crafts and a comic book swap to celebrate the 75th anniversary of Batman!

**Safari Greg** - August 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am  
Experience the wild & wacky world of Safari Greg and his Amazing Urban Safari! A must-see for all ages! Seating is limited; register online at <http://wblibrary.eventbrite.com>.



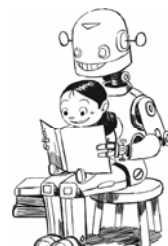
**Teen Nerd Night:** Wednesdays at 6pm through August 6<sup>th</sup>.  
7/9- Fire and Ice  
7/16- Star Trek vs. Star Wars  
7/23- Comic Crafts (for Batman Day)  
7/30- Zombie Apocalypse  
8/6- The Art of Science



**Arts & Crafts** – Wednesdays at 6pm  
Ages 8+ or with an adult. Space is limited; free tickets available at 5:30pm at the children's desk.

### Summer Reading- THE PRIZES!!

ALL ages are encouraged to fill out reading logs this summer for chances to win some awesome prizes. After 25 picture books or 500 pages, turn in the log. We'll have weekly drawings for kids, teens, and adult prizes. The grand prize this year for adults is a Kindle Fire. You can also earn extra chances to win by completing a science activity log or Tic-Tac-Toe card.



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## St. Andrew's Food Pantry

Each year St. Andrew's feeds over 3,000 individuals in need. Many of these people are low-income families with young children. In order to meet the growing need, we're asking for your help. You can drop off non-perishable food donations or make a monetary donation. We're located at 14311 Wells Port Drive and our office hours are Mon-Fri from 9am-1pm. To learn more about our Food Pantry program, please visit our website at <http://www.staopen.org/our-ministries/come/>. Together we can help feed our neighbors in need!

## Wells Branch Neighbors Google Group

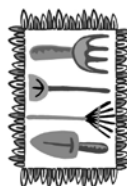
by Joy Hall Bryant

*Wells Branch Neighbors is a community-based Google Group for communications between residents of the neighborhood. All Wells Branch neighbors are encouraged to join.*

### HOW TO JOIN THE GROUP

1. You will need to be signed in to your Google Account. To set up your free Google account, visit <https://accounts.google.com/SignUp>.
2. Go to [groups.google.com](https://groups.google.com).
3. Enter "Wells Branch Neighbors" in search field.
4. Click on the group name.
5. Click the link to "Apply for Membership".

If you have questions or difficulty subscribing, please email [wbneighbors@gmail.com](mailto:wbneighbors@gmail.com).



## Garden Guild

By Dianne Koehler

We have an exciting summer planned! In July we'll focus on all you need to know about container gardening and our August meeting will be a potluck lunch from our gardens and planning for next year's events. WB Garden Guild

meets at the MUD Recreation Center at 3000 Shoreline on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 11:00am-Noon. Come early at 10:30 for plant trades, sampling of garden produce, garden/yard item sharing and just general meet and greet. Everyone is welcome!

**July 19 - Container Gardening**

**August 16 - Planning Session**

Each August, the group picks a variety of topics for the coming year and members schedule local experts and neighborhood gardeners for presentations at our monthly meetings. In addition, an annual tour is planned of neighborhood gardens giving everyone a "peek behind the garden gate."

We've hosted presentations on shade gardening, seasonal gardening, rainwater collection, irrigation, as well as demonstrations on making compost, garden lighting, and starting herbs from cuttings. We've even taken a field trip or two. We hope you'll join us for our August planning session.

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



## KUDOS! KUDOS! KUDOS! KUDOS! KUDOS! KUDOS! KUDOS!

Y'all are awesome as always! Last issue, we ran out of room so Kudos for both March & May deliveries are listed below. Thanks to the March folks, we had a great turnout at the Easter Egg Hunt and the Hazardous Waste Collection. Our May folks helped get the vote out for both school district bond elections. Thank you ALL for taking time out of your weekend(s) to volunteer! Your efforts make a huge difference for our community!



### **March Delivery**

Daniel Barnekow · Mike Barron · Anne, Colton & Brady Bennett  
Emily Berver · Shannon & Durbin Black · Debbie Brown ·  
Garland Bullock · Helen Carley · Kim & Rob Clark · Miriam,  
Melissa & Briana Garate · Susie Gillespie · Cynthia Hannon ·  
Katie & Brent Halling · George & Wanda Holcombe · Travers  
Hough · Jennifer Jones · Dan, Kim, Brendan & Sarah Lanicek ·  
Brian & Rachel LeBansky · Sherrie Lindig · Brian Litke · Nancy  
Loomis · Erik & Honor Macdanz · \*Siv, Jyoti & Arjuna Manda  
Joan & Dave Mead · Arlie Pfeifer · John, Tananna & Cassius  
Porter · Mike & Nancy Quintana · Sharon Richardson · Ron  
Robinder · Kim Sands · Yvette Shelton · Virgil Smith · Emily  
Spiars · Debby Thompson · Jill & J.R. Traffanstedt · Joe, Lincoln,  
Beckett & Oslo Wieck · Mike & Annemarie Weis · Steve Wilson  
Wally Wingfield · Linda Wright

### **May Delivery**

Daniel Barnekow · Mike Barron · Brad, Colton, Brady & Winston  
Bennett · Henry & Owen Bennett · Emily Berver · Debbie  
Brown Kathy Brown · Helen Carley · Kim & Rob Clark · Chris  
Flores · Miriam, Melissa & Briana Garate · Dave Gezana · Susie  
Gillespie Cynthia Hannon · Katie & Brent Halling · Travers Hough  
Monique Johnson · Jennifer Jones · Brian & Rachel LeBansky  
Sherrie Lindig · Brian Litke · Nancy Loomis · Erik Macdanz ·  
\*Siv, Jyoti & Arjuna Manda · Mekala Padmanabhan · Sharon  
Richardson · Julie Schwartz · Sonya Shaffer · Alice, Josh, Josiah  
& Micah Sears · Cristina Silingardi · Yvette Shelton · Virgil Smith  
Emily Spiars · Scott Swain · Katy Thaden · Debby Thompson ·  
Kevin, Lisa, Sarah, Faith, Grace & Liam Ward · Daniel White ·  
Karen Wilburn · Steve Wilson · Wally Wingfield · Cindy Zraik

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

If you would like to deliver the newsletter, please contact our distribution team at [info@wbna.us](mailto:info@wbna.us) or 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.

### **Park Master Plan Flyer Deliverers -**

We'd like to extend a special thank you to everyone who pitched in and helped the MUD get the word out on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Park Master Plan meeting. Thanks go out to BSA Troop 1409 and ASM Daniel White, the WB Soccer Assn., Girl Scouts, BSA Pack 728, WB MUD Board Member Joe Petronis and the following volunteers for the WBNA who delivered well over 1000 flyers: Henry Bennett, Emily Berver, Shannon Best, Susan Gezana, Brian Litke, Nancy Loomis, Joan & Dave Mead, Shelley Palmer, Ron Robinder, Emily Spiars, Debby Thompson, and Cindy Zraik.



## **Congrats, Armada!**

The WBNA would like to congratulate the Wells Branch Armada on 25 years of teamwork, community spirit, and support for our Wells Branch youth. The Armada board would like to thank the parents and volunteers for their constant support in making this a fun and beneficial experience for our swimmers. We would also like to thank all who have sponsored us over our 25 years. Your generosity allows Armada to keep fees low year after year.

Thanks to everyone for an amazing 25 years...and hoping for many more!





## Disc Golf by Brian Litke

Disc Golf is a growing sport, and in May, Wells Branch hosted the 2nd annual Wells Branch Disc Golf Tournament, celebrating the one-year anniversary of expanding the course to 18 holes. The day was blessed by

plentiful sun and wind, keeping the temperature low and the scores high. We had 29 players register in 5 divisions. Door prizes included an iPod Touch, Branch BBQ Family Pack, ThunderCloud Subs gift certificates, and a Stan's A/C cleaning. Participants received a WB custom stamped disc, and winners of each division received a WB mini marker disc. The top four scores were all posted by Wells Branch residents: Mike Shay (46), Jerry Perez (48), T.J. Elders (50), Kyle Goens (50). Our youngest player was an 11-year old (who scored a 58) and the oldest was a 65-year old (who scored a 57).

Thank you to the WB MUD for supporting disc golf at Wells Branch. I see an increasing mix of young and old, male and female playing the course, and I think short courses like WB are a very positive amenity for any community. Just last week-end, I met a foursome of players in their 50s, and one of the female players told me they were playing here for the first time and she expressed how much they enjoyed the course design, because it was approachable by a variety of skill levels. Wells Branch really is a course for everyone.

I welcome you to visit the WB disc golf course to give it a try. Park along Owen Tech Blvd. across from the Whataburger.

If you take up the sport of disc golf, you may want to explore a few other courses in the area.

- North Town Disc Golf Course is in Pflugerville off Harris Ridge Blvd. between Wells Branch Pkwy and Howard Lane. This course recently installed concrete tee boxes, and it is a slightly longer course when compared to Wells Branch.

- Cactus Patch is a 9-hole course across from McNeil High School. The course starts behind Crosspoint Church, near the YMCA entrance.

- Brushy Creek MUD Disc Golf Course is north of Wells Branch off 620. It is a nice 18-hole course.

## WB ACC Seeks Community Input & Participation by Chuck Walters, ACC Chair

The ACC is forming a 'Green Committee' to help develop guidelines for xeriscaping, rainwater collection, solar panels, metal roofing for structural changes and other green initiatives that will be in line with the covenants. We are looking for interested parties to assist in these efforts. If you're interested in serving on this committee, please send your contact info and why you'd like to participate to: WellsBranch.ACC@gmail.com. The guidelines established will be posted to WBNA and WB MUD websites.

If you want a voice and the ability to work towards positive change in your community, this is a great opportunity for involvement. We want to hear from YOU! Let's GO, Wells Branch!



**Carmina Eaton, Agent**  
4201 W. Parmer Lane Bldg. B  
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Bus: 512-244-6641  
carmina.eaton.cao9@statefarm.com

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## WB Business Spotlight: Wells Branch Plaza—1779 Wells Branch Pkwy by Gus Kohn

This is the last in the series of articles about the many shopping centers in our neighborhood. Remember that sales tax paid within WB from your purchases benefits both the Library and the Fire Department (ESD#2). The continuing success of the businesses within our community directly influences our property values. When we "Shop WB" we all benefit.

**Valero Corner Store** anchors the center offering gasoline and convenience items 24/7/365. They have been serving residents in Wells Branch for over 20 years.

**Fighting Fit Boot Camp Austin** recently moved from their previous location in Bratton Square. They celebrated their Grand Opening here in May and are offering a 2 week free membership for all programs with mention of this article. Owner and Coach Forrest Caudill says they have programs for fitness boot camp, fitness kick boxing as well as the martial art of Jeet Kune Do developed by Bruce Lee. They have morning and evening classes for both the boot camp and kick boxing.

Stop in and see their new larger space; they have two trainers who live in the neighborhood. Fighting Fit specializes in weight loss; Coach Forrest says many of their clients have never worked out or kicked a bag before so don't think they are all top athletes. Call them at 512.670.9333 or find them on the web at [austinfightingfit.com](http://austinfightingfit.com) and [facebook.com/fightingfitbootcampaustin](http://facebook.com/fightingfitbootcampaustin). Their motto: "Suck it up & soon you won't have to suck it in!"

**Paradise Biryani Pointe** Indian Cuisine has been in the corner location of this center for the past year. Owners Premraj Nalla and Sudhir Ganta welcome Wells Branch neighbors to one of the largest Indian restaurant franchises in the USA.

Their specialty, Biryani is a type of dish prepared with veggies, egg, chicken, goat, shrimp or fish with mixed vegetables in the Hyderbadi or Nawabi cooking style by authentically trained chefs. They also have many other veggie dishes as well as chicken, goat and seafood; dine in or take out is available and they offer party and catering trays to go as well as a lunch buffet 7 days a week from 11:30am–2:30pm. All their dishes are prepared with Halal meats and they offer 15% off your total dine in bill during Happy Hour from 5:30–7:30pm every day. Visit Paradise for an exotic dining experience; 512-358-6283 or [paradisearaustin.com](http://paradisearaustin.com).

**El Faro** owners Jose Luis and Celia Morales, and family have owned this delightful Mexican restaurant for 8 years. Their specialty is authentic Family Style Mexican food open Tu-Sun from 8am-2pm with a lunch buffet Tu-F from 11am-2 pm; catering is available as well.

El Faro means Lighthouse and all the lighthouses you see in the space were gifted by grateful customers. Call them at 512-252-3430.

**Rack Daddy's Billiards and Bar** and **Century Nails** were unavailable for comment.

**The UPS Store** has had the same owner for 20 years; proprietor Mike Goswami welcomes WB neighbors to use color



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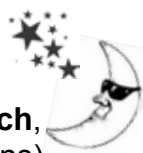
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## Spring Fling Thank You

by Northwest PTO

Thank you, thank you, and thank you to all of the incredible teachers, parents, volunteers, vendors, chili judges, families, and neighbors who attended Northwest Elementary's Wild, Wild West Celebration. Thank you to all our neighborhood business silent auction donors, the WB MUD, Wells Branch Neighborhood Association, WB Community Church, WB Soccer Association, WB Armada, and the WB Community Library, who all played a big role in our wonderfully successful fundraiser. Thank you also to Krista Owens, Betsey Harper, and Lisa Ward, our event chairs for organizing and planning this event. And thank you to the rest of the NW PTO family for working longer and harder than anyone realizes on this and every event. A special thank you to Kevin Ward, Deborah Thompson, Janet Maxey, and Chuck Walters, for volunteering last minute for the entire hot day! Also, thank you Tom Cheshire for all your help throughout the year, and before and after this event too. It was such a fun and exciting day, and it would not have happened without the support of everyone involved.

Thank you again!

Northwest PTO



copying, postal services, mail box rental, custom packing, freight shipping, faxing, notary services, shredding and more. They can ship almost anything including cars and furniture.



The store is open M-F from 9am-6pm & Saturday from 10am-4pm. Call them at 512-990-7978.

**Tejas Liquor #3** (not to be confused with the other Tejas Liquor in the neighborhood) has been in this center for 3 years but has had another store in south Austin since 1997. Manager Prince Sharma offers a wide selection of liquor, an especially large bourbon selection as well as wine and craft beers. Prince says their

daily prices are lower than the larger chain stores. They are open 10am-9pm M-S and can be reached at 512-358-9800 or [tejasliquors.com](http://tejasliquors.com)

**Branch BBQ** has been a WB neighbor for 19 ½ years. A family owned business that is very involved in the Wells Branch community, owners Chris and Catherine Carby provide terrific food with a home away from home atmosphere. The staff is personable and family oriented, serving lunch specials M-F 11am-2pm, Friday specials of made-from-scratch Southern Chicken & Dumplings, Collard Greens, Candied Yams and Yeast rolls, and homemade ice cream while it lasts.

Open M-Th 11am-8pm, Fri & Sat 11am-9pm, they offer catering 7 days a week for weddings, special events or any occasion. During Thanksgiving & Christmas they feature specialized catering with a family meal including smoked turkey, turkey giblets, stuffing, corn and rolls. Coming soon, delicious pecan pie either whole or by the slice. Besides great BBQ, they are also well known for Chris' smoked catfish and fried rice; I especially like the Frito pie. Call Branch at 512-990-5282 or visit [branchbbq.com](http://branchbbq.com). "Like" them on Facebook for updates and reminders. See their ad on page 14 and be sure and stop by and say, "Hi" to Chris and Catherine and crew at the Wells Branch Fourth Fest where they'll be serving up their famous chopped BBQ sandwiches. It wouldn't be the 4th without them!

**Homer's Bar** is a neighborhood bar whose patrons say it reminds them of Cheers. Owners Shelly & Homer Moyer have owned the bar for 8 years. Open 2pm-2am M-F and noon to 2am S & S they offer Billiards, Sweeps machines and Darts in the main bar with Karaoke 7 nights a week from 9pm-2am in the other room separated by a wall. Patrons say that the two sides of the bar are like having two completely separate bars; the Karaoke music doesn't drown out conversation in the main bar even with their excellent sound system.

A great place to go for sports with 10 TVs with a premium sports package, 20 tap handles and a fine bottle selection of prime spirits, this neighborhood bar has a lot to offer. One may bring food in or have it delivered. Homer's offers a smoker friendly environment and \$2 Jello shots all the time. Call 512-251-5554 for more information.



Are you a compulsive eater? Do you worry about the way you eat? Overeaters Anonymous can help. No weigh-ins, dues or fees. Wells Branch neighborhood meeting. For more information, call 512-791-5035.

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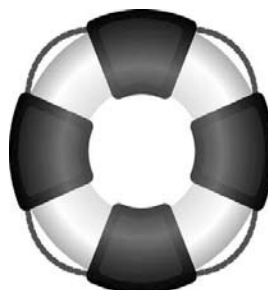
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## Inaugural Splash Day at the KF Pool



Come join Wells Branch MUD for the first Annual Splash Day at Katherine Fleischer Pool on Saturday, August 2, from 10am-1pm! The event will be geared toward children of all ages, as well as parents. Thanks to our sponsors, Armbrust & Brown, Crossroads, Bott & Douthitt and Murfee Engineering, the event is

a free, fun-filled day of learning about safety in and around water.

We will have pool games, learning stations and concessions onsite. Prizes and giveaways will be given out throughout the event. Children who complete all of the learning stations receive a free t-shirt (while supplies last).

Some of the learning stations will cover the American Red Cross water safety program called Water Habits are Learned Early, (WHALE) Tales. Taught in a classroom type session, Longfellow's WHALE Tales makes water safety fun and easy to learn. Each lesson (11 different catch phrases) is reinforced with color posters, worksheets, activities and a video that features Longfellow, an animated whale.

There will be lots of chances throughout the day for giveaways such as mini pool balls, stickers, tattoos, water watcher cards with lanyards and bookmarks.

Drowning is the leading cause of unintentional injury-related death among children under the age of four. Every year, thousands of children under age 14 are treated in hospital emergency rooms for drowning-related incidents. Just knowing how to swim isn't enough - children are vulnerable to water-related hazards. So come out and have some fun while learning how to be safe in, on, and around the water.

## From Recent MUD Board Meetings by Debby Thompson, WBNA President

*Please remember, the WBNA (Wells Branch Neighborhood Association) and the Wells Branch MUD are two different entities; ours is a volunteer community group, the other, a governmental body. In the interest of our shared residents, we do our best to report on MUD events and Board meetings in an objective manner so that each of you are aware of current topics and can research those that interest you for yourselves and form your own opinions. There is a wealth of information on the MUD website: [www.wellsbranchmud.com](http://www.wellsbranchmud.com). For more information on any of the topics below, please check there first. Information may be in the form of a featured story or in the MUD Board Meeting Minutes or Board Packets. If you have difficulty locating what you're looking for, contact me at [info@wbna.us](mailto:info@wbna.us) and I'll do my best to point you in the right direction.*

Regular MUD Board meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of each month at the Community Center on Klattenhoff unless otherwise posted. All residents are invited to attend. Agendas are posted the week prior to the meeting at [www.wellsbranchmud.com](http://www.wellsbranchmud.com) under the "Board" tab.

### New MUD Board Meeting Time

All regularly scheduled WB MUD Board Meetings (1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month) will now begin at 5:30pm. Citizens communication will stay at its regular time of 6:30pm.

### Park Master Plan

June 3, the District's consultant, TBG Partners, presented the completed Parks Master Plan replacing the existing plan from 1999. The Master Plan lays out a blueprint and priorities for projects throughout our parks system that the District intends to complete in upcoming years.

For the past five months, TBG has been collecting information and reviewing the District's existing parks and ongoing projects. The MUD conducted an online survey and invited residents to two public input sessions to give their input on what future projects were more important to them. The top park priorities identified by the community and the Board included soccer

fields, trail enhancements, a dog park, nature play and water play. TBG will now begin to help the Board prioritize, budget and plan for these future improvements.

The MUD Board plans to finalize the Park Master Plan at the July 1 meeting. As stated in their June 17 meeting, the full plan will be posted to the MUD website at [wellsbranchmud.com/parkplanning](http://wellsbranchmud.com/parkplanning) after the July 1 meeting.

### Community Center Renovation

The air conditioning system in the Community Center was replaced in May, but further renovations were postponed until after Stuff-2-Do Camp finishes for the summer. Remaining work is scheduled to begin around September 1 and will hopefully be completed by Luminary Fest.

### Recreation Center Expansion

On schedule. Architects and engineers are currently working on plans and permitting.

### Shoreline Soccer Fields

Layout and amenities to be included in the NEW Shoreline Soccer Fields will be on the MUD Board's agenda for discussion at the July 1 meeting. Soccer kids? Be there!

### November MUD Board Elections

Three places on the WB MUD Board (1,3, & 5) will be on the November 4 ballot. Applications for a place on the Wells Branch Municipal Utility District Regular Election ballot may be filed during the following times:

Start Date: July 19, 2014 End Date: August 18, 2014

Office Hours: 8am-5pm

Physical address for filing applications for place on ballot:

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100 Congress Ave., Suite 1300  
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For more information, please visit [wellsbranchmud.com](http://wellsbranchmud.com).



## Tips and Tricks for Incoming Freshman

by Kat Sands

This past May I finished my first semester of college at Texas State University. It was full of amazing experiences and fun times, but also many hard times and annoyances. Everyone has their own ways of navigating campus, but as a freshman and being out there on your own, you really realize there are a lot of things that nobody told you about. Congrats class of 2014, here are some tips and tricks from the class of 2013!

### After Graduation:

- For every graduation gift you've received, write a thank you note. It's a small thing that means a lot to those who give you gifts and has become rare with the advent of technology.
- Don't spend all your gift cards before move in.
- After graduation, donate clothes that you haven't worn much in the past year or pass them on to someone else, you'll need the closet space!
- Spend as much time as you can with your friends now, before leaving for college.

### Dorm Life:

- When you move in, don't bring EVERYTHING inside of your room, especially if you know you'll have a roommate.
- Organize your space, and make use of lofted beds, storage cabinets, and command hooks.
- Talk to your roommate, every school seems to assign you a specialized email address and service, use it.
- Get to know the people on your floor, and the rest of your residence hall.
- When you sign up for your room, figure out the mailing address. You don't know how much you're going to miss getting mail.
- If you've never shared a room, and aren't used to noisy halls outside your room, find a way to get used to having noise. *Editor's note: A white noise machine is amazing (\$20-\$40 at Bed, Bath & Beyond) as well as FREE phone apps with ocean, rain and other soothing sounds.*
- Tour the dorm before you choose it as some are smaller

*See Tips & Tricks on page 12*

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### Scouting in Wells Branch

#### **Venture Scouting is coming to Wells Branch**

Coming this September for youth ages 14 to 21, Co-ed Venture Scouting! If you enjoy outdoor adventures (hiking, backpacking, camping) then Venture Scouting may be just what you're looking for. Visit our Open House on Sept. 6 & 7 from 2-4pm at the Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive to learn more about our new crew. Questions? Contact Daniel at 512-413-0097.

#### **Pack 140 & Troop 1409 News**

It's been an exciting spring and summer for Troop 1409! On Feb. 22, nine Cub Scouts from Pack 140 crossed over and were received into Troop 1409. We look forward to all that these boys can accomplish in the coming years.

May 3-5, SM Rich Michelson and ASM Greg Jewett along with Scouts Andrew Michelson and Shawn Johnston were inducted into the Order of the Arrow, the national honor society for Scouting. Our May campout followed the next weekend with a backpacking trip to Enchanted Rock.

Summer Camp was a huge success with 15 boys attending a week-long camp at Lost Pines Scout Reservation in Bastrop in June. Troop 1409 won the Honor Troop Award for their flag ceremony and Scout Evan Jewett was awarded the Honor Camper Award for his outstanding behavior and exemplifying the Scout Law. We'd like to thank Scoutmaster Michelson and Asst. Scoutmaster White for facilitating this adventure for the boys as well as Asst. Scoutmaster Jewett for all the prep work, Mendy Barnett, the volunteer coordinator, and all the parents who came out and stayed a day or two or three at camp.

July brings about another camping opportunity with a trip to San Antonio to hike the Mission Trail beginning at the Alamo and ending at Mission Espada.

As a fundraiser for the Scouts, the Troop sold soft drinks at the 'Movie in the Park' night in June and will have a booth at Fourth Fest, the July & August 'Movies in the Park' and Renaissance Day in September. We hope you'll join us in supporting these young men at neighborhood events.

For more information and contact information, please visit our website at [Troop1409.com](http://Troop1409.com).

#### **Pack 728 Cubs Crossover**

Jordi Reese and Josh Perera completed the requirements of Cub Scouts and celebrated their Crossover to Boy Scouts at the Pack 728 Blue and Gold Ceremony on June 11, 2014. They were received by Boy Scout Troop 635 of Pflugerville. Josh and Jordi began as Tiger Scouts in 2009 at Wells Branch Elementary.

#### **Crossover Scouts**



LEFT Jordi Reese and Josh Perera, Pack 728

LEFT From back left: Logan O'Neil, William Hicks, Jonathan Barnett, Connor Michelson, Eli Galvan. Front: Zachary Boldt, Eric Rodriguez, Caden Barker, Grant Dzurenko, Pack 140

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## Garden Guild Hosts Annual Tour

by Dianne Koehler

There were some fantastic things to see on the tour this year. We had a good sized group who asked a lot of questions. Everyone loved Rachel and Brian LeBansky's backyard and I personally am looking forward to a start of the colored yarrow—such an inviting space to spend time lounging about. The trailing rosemary at Barbara Romero's home was so interesting and the Victoria Salvia a real hit as was the stacked wall around her patio. George Holcombe got to show off his new sweet potato starts and the irrigation system that runs off his rain barrels. Yvette Shelton's plants are thriving in the shade at home and her 2 plots at the community gardens. While visiting Chandra Patel's home, he even demonstrated the irrigation system for us and showed how it was laid out; the plants are flourishing too with all kinds of flowers and vegetables. I got to explain my hugelkultur beds and brag on their water retention; we then looked at the cinder-block bed with planted squares and the onions that are bursting forth. At the school garden we got an up close look at how the hoop houses were constructed and the new tank beds and learned how both conserve water and helped the garden weather the harsh winter. Last stop was the community gardens with Heather Johnson and Yvette Shelton showing us around the beds and all of the tomatoes, squash, beans, and peppers that are in abundance right now.

If you missed the tour and have questions or an interest, just ask some of the members to let you have a quick look sometime!

Editor's note: Thank you Dianne Koehler & George Holcombe for organizing the tour, our gardeners for sharing their beautiful gardens and their wisdom and our photographers, George Holcombe and Joan Mueller Mead. Visit WBNA.us for photos of the 2014 Garden Tour as well as those of years past. Photos are organized by year.

## Stay Cool This Summer at New Pools!

by Tammy DeWitt Le

We have great pools to visit right here in Wells Branch, but now there are 2 new options for beating the Texas heat. These exciting new developments are now open including 1 large water park and 1 large pool complex. First, Hawaiian Falls Water Park in Pflugerville opened after much anticipation. The park is located at 18500 State Highway 130, a 15-20 minute drive from WB. This huge water park includes a large wave pool, racing slides, kid's splash harbor, completely enclosed tube slide, a lazy river, and daredevil rides. Admission is \$35.99 for adults and \$26.99 for kids 3 and up. Wendy's, HEB, and Costco all offer discounts on admission; visit hfalls.com and look under the Special Offers tab. Coolers are allowed, with a \$10 fee. There are food and drink options in the park. Hawaiian Falls also offers youth Summer camps. Second, Bartholomew Pool on 51<sup>st</sup> St. is now open to the public. This complex replaces the former pool that closed due to damage. The new facility has a toddler pool, 2 water slides, lap pool and designated recreation pool. You can enjoy outdoor vending or bring a cooler. Bartholomew pool is about 15-minutes from Wells Branch. Admission to the pool is \$2 for kids 1-11, \$3 for kids 12-17, and \$4 for adults. It is located at 1800 E. 51<sup>st</sup> St. near the Mueller neighborhood. Don't miss the nearby park and Bartholomew Splash Pad at 5200 Berkman. As Austin continues to grow, it's wonderful that our swimming options are also growing.

### Tips & Tricks from page 10

than others and social groups vary from dorm to dorm.

- Traditional Style means you have community bathrooms. No, it is not as scary or gross as it sounds, but you are going to want flip flops.
- RA's are amazing people, and they will come to your aid when you need it most.
- Keep a small medical kit with: Band-Aids, burn cream, Neosporin, sanitary wipes, gauze, and medical tape. You never know with all those stairs, man.
- Shower totes are super handy, but I recommend the fabric ones. Also get a bathrobe and more than one towel for when you don't feel like doing laundry.
- That being said, know how to do laundry, wash dishes BY HAND, and how to address an envelope.
- Find out if you have to pay to use the washers and dryers before you need to do laundry.

### Roommates:

- Be prepared.
- You will be living with this person for approximately 9 months, communication is key.
- Get to know each other before move-in if possible.
- Discuss who will bring the fridge & who will bring the TV.
- Find out their schedule ahead of time, and if they're night owls or early birds.
- If you are going to be handling substances of questionable odor (i.e. spray paint, aerosol sprays, fixative, Axe, certain drugs) let your roommate know ahead of time to avoid spats later on.

*See Tips & Tricks on page 18*





**NEVER** leave a child or pet in a parked car - even for a "quick" errand. The inside of a car can reach dangerous temperatures in just minutes, even if it's relatively cool outside or the windows are left down. **DON'T RISK IT!**

## 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 or flowerpots or in similar places.
- Put your lights, stereo or TV on timers.
- Leave a car in the driveway or ask a neighbor to park in it.
- Don't cancel your paper or mail deliveries; ask that your neighbor pick them up every day.
- Leave a key with a friend or neighbor; ask that the house be checked at regular intervals.
- 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 trash can & 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.



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## Labor Day Casino Night

**August 30 • 6-9pm • WB Community Center**

Wells Branch MUD presents its annual Labor Day Casino Night Saturday, August 30 from 6-9pm. An adult only evening of gaming for our residents, this event is for ages 21 and up only and IDs will be checked at the door. Join us at 2106 Klattenhoff Dr. as the Community Center is transformed into a casino using professional tables and dealers. Stick around following the gaming for more fun and the opportunity for "winners" to cash out and place tickets towards drawings for several prizes.

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## FREE Breakfast & Lunch for Kids!

The summer nutrition program provides breakfast and lunch to ANY child age 1 to 18 free of charge. There is no need to pre-register or qualify - just show up! Children do not need to be accompanied by an adult. Older children may bring their siblings. No one will be turned away. This program is for all children and is NOT school boundary or district specific. The only site in Wells Branch proper is at WB Elementary. The second closest location is in Pflugerville. Participation dates and times are listed below and may differ from what is listed on the website. These times have been confirmed.

### Wells Branch Elementary

14650 Merriltown Drive  
June 2 - August 21 (M-Th)  
Breakfast: 8:00-9:00am  
Lunch: 12:30-1:00pm

### Spring Hill Elementary

600 S. Heatherwilde Blvd, Pfl.  
June 9 - August 15 (M-F)  
Morning Snack: 9:00-9:30am  
Lunch: 11:30am-12:30pm

Visit [squaremeals.org](http://squaremeals.org) or [summerfood.org](http://summerfood.org) to locate other participating sites. You may call 877-TEX-MEAL with questions.

PLEASE NOTE: If you search for a site using the 78728 zip code, the Abundant Life Church at 2113 Wells Branch Pkwy. will pop up. DO NOT GO THERE. IT IS A CLOSED SITE for their day camp only.

## ATHLOS Leadership Academy Austin

### WBCharter School Update by Traci Synatschk. PTO Pres.



The construction on Shoreline is moving along and the expanded Athlos Leadership Academy will be opening for the 2014-2015 school year on August 20th. This tuition free charter

school will focus on leadership, whole health through physical fitness and core educational learning principals.

Currently, there is a waiting list for Pre-K through 1st grade and openings for 2nd - 9th. If you are interested in learning more or submitting an application, please visit [www.athlo-saustin.com](http://www.athlo-saustin.com). We are looking forward to offering expanded educational choices in WB!

## Swim Lesson Scholarships Available

Wells Branch MUD offers swimming lessons throughout the summer. Unfortunately, many families in Wells Branch are unable to afford formal swim lessons for their children. If you, or someone you know, has children who could benefit and needs assistance in paying for swim lessons, please contact Katie Hutcheson at [khutcheson@wellsbranchmud.com](mailto:khutcheson@wellsbranchmud.com) or 512-251-9814 ext. 111. Our amazing community donors have made a limited number of scholarships available. Needs will be met on a first come, first serve basis. Call us!

## Northwest Elementary News By Betsey Harper



The school year is over and your kids haven't done anything besides relax, play, eat, and sleep? I know we all need a break from the craziness 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. 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. 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.

Did you know that 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.

- 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.
- Become your child's partner in reading. 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.
- Make it fun. Going to the new waterpark in Pflugerville? Pull up the website and let them read all about it and the other great waterparks in our area.
- Reading for pleasure is one of the building blocks needed for young people to grow into healthy, productive adults. Have a safe and engaging summer!

# buywellsbranch.com

**David Lotspeich, Broker/Owner/GRI Lori Page, Realtor® WB residents since 1985**  
**Austin HomePage Real Estate**

## **PISD Bond Passes!** by Betsey Harper

Pflugerville ISD voters overwhelmingly approved the \$287 million bond package to benefit students and teachers with nearly 70% of voters approving the bond referendum. The bonds address district growth, safety and security, and campus parity across the district. Thank you for supporting Pflugerville ISD with your vote!

**Northwest Elementary** will receive approximately \$2,497,875 worth of improvements. The money will be used as follows:

- Campus Priorities: \$1,053,000 - Replace or refurbish: student display board in hallways, gym floor, paint, carpet, restroom fixtures, casework, doors, and replace music instruments.
- Mechanical System: \$465,000 - Replace old equipment and piping.
- Technology: \$426,600 - Computer Replacement, Student Devices, Full Wireless Integration, Video Distribution, Fiber Cabling Upgrade, Battery Backup Upgrades, Video Security Upgrades (Cameras, Software).
- Roofing: \$200,000 - Patch and repair existing roof.
- Electrical System: \$162,500 - Replace switchboard, electrical panels and transformer, add more computer capacity, replace light fixtures.
- Plumbing System: \$130,000 - Replace heating water boiler, water closets and urinals, wall-mounted wash stations, wall-mounted water coolers.
- Security: \$60,775 - Controlled entry vestibule at main entry.

**Westview Middle School** • Campus Total: \$1,007,017

- Security: \$72,655 - Controlled entry vestibule at main entry.
- Technology: \$649,362 - Computer Replacement, Student

Devices, Full Wireless Integration, Video Distribution, Fiber Cabling Upgrade, Battery Backup Upgrades, Video Security Upgrades (Cameras, Software).

- Mechanical System: \$105,000 - Replace old equipment and piping.
- Life Safety System: \$180,000 - Repair fire alarm systems.

**Connally High School** • Campus Total: \$9,320,217

- Security: \$218,695 - Controlled entry vestibule at main entry.
- Technology: \$1,314,162 - Computer Replacement, Student Devices, Classroom Projector & Audio, Full Wireless Integration, Video Distribution, Fiber Cabling Upgrade, Battery Backup Upgrades, Video Security Upgrades (Cameras, Software).
- Campus Priorities: \$2,047,925 - Replace or refurbish: restrooms, selected carpet and VCT, paint, lay-in ceilings, kitchen-serving and cafeteria, selected restroom fixtures, fire alarm panel, selected door/cork boards in hallways, marching tower.
- Improvements to Existing Athletics: \$1,250,000 - Existing seating capacity to remain; refurbish ticket booths; replace artificial turf; replace track surface; rebuild concessions; upgrade restrooms; upgrade scoreboard; renovate existing press boxes and install HVAC; address site drainage near the track and under bleachers; upgrade sound system; provide water and wastewater service at baseball/softball concessions; address facility deficiencies as noted in the Facilities Assessment.
- Roofing: \$1,500,000 - Replace entire existing roof overlay.
- Mechanical System: \$2,418,250 - Replace older equipment, associated condensate and gas piping.
- Life Safety System: \$571,185 - Replace fire alarm system.

We look forward to the implementation of many of these improvements over the summer break and starting anew in the fall!

## **WB Elementary Volunteer Awards**

Dianna Gielstra was awarded 2014 Round Rock ISD Partner of the Year for Wells Branch Elementary. She invited the members of the WBE Green Team to share in accepting the award as these volunteers all worked together to teach the WBE students in the gardens, build and maintain the gardens, provide healthy food taste tests to support RRISD efforts towards healthier menus via their Discovery Day feature food, and brought in more than \$12,000 in grants to fund these endeavors. Chris Connell was awarded Volunteer of the Year for Wells Branch Elementary. He served as the PTA secretary, Watch D.O.G. and was a major volunteer in all the school events. Photo at wbnas.us.

## **Open Ears Concert Series**

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church  
14311 Wells Port Drive

**Saturday, August 9, 5:00 PM - The 8th Annual St. Andrew's Variety Show.** Whether you are a singer, instrumentalist, poet, actor, dancer, storyteller, jokester, puppeteer, magician, mime, or other, **The St. Andrew's Variety Show** is an exciting opportunity to share your gift and experience the joy of entertaining (and being entertained by) others. Signup will start in July. Admission will be free.

Save the date for September 13, 6PM-artist TBA

For more information, go to [www.openearsconcerts.com](http://www.openearsconcerts.com)

www.austinvetcaremetric.com

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## Clip & Save Recycling Calendar

Monthly recycling numbers are posted each month on our website. WB continues to hover at around 60-62% participation. Please do your part. **Recycle and remind your neighbors!**

Recycling pickup only occurs every other week on regular trash pickup days. For a complete list of recyclable items and a fresh 2014 calendar, please visit [www.wbna.us=>community=>recycling](http://www.wbna.us=>community=>recycling).

### Clip 'n Save July 2014

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		

### August 2014

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						

### September 2014

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				

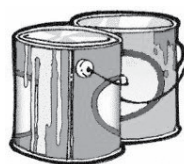


## Mr. Wilson Retires

The Wells Branch Elementary School PTA would like to give a heartfelt thank you to Bob Wilson for his 29 years of wonderful service and dedication to our students. We appreciate his enthusiasm, optimism and energy he shared with our children on a

daily basis. The students were always happy to see Coach Wilson giving high-fives, asking about their day and being an awesome, inspirational coach. Bob Wilson has always gone above and beyond his duties as a teacher. He's been both a mentor and a friend to the children of Wells Branch Elementary. Whether it was making time to take in a swim meet, watch one of his student's baseball games, or just listen, the kids have always known he **CARED**.

When asked what he had planned for retirement, Bob answered, "Volunteer A LOT and do a little traveling." THANK YOU Mr. Wilson for being a part of all of our children's lives! Several generations have learned from your example. We wish you a happy retirement and safe travels. And when you get bored, we have lots of places you can volunteer right here in Wells Branch!



## Hazardous Waste Collection – July 12

**Bulk Trash, Metal, Electronics,  
Styrofoam Recycling, Habitat**

**for Humanity & Easter Seals Drop Off**

**See article for specific times!**

Bring your old batteries, oil, paint, and antifreeze to the WB MUD Maintenance Facility at 13905 Thermal Drive, Saturday, July 12, from 8am-5pm. The MUD is providing a trailer and staff to transport these items to the Hazardous Waste Facility in far South Austin as part of our continued Keep Wells Branch Beautiful efforts.

There are restrictions as to what can be collected and transported. Oil, paint and anti-freeze need to be in closed containers. If bringing car or boat batteries, a cardboard box would be appreciated (but not necessary). We cannot take light bulbs, fertilizer or other chemicals at this time. Home Depot and Lowes will dispose of light bulbs. Dianne Koehler will be collecting fertilizer and other yard chemicals at 14909 Alpha Collier for repurposing on July 12 from 8am-5pm.

In addition to the usual bulky trash collection, we'll have a manned truck from Habitat for Humanity on-site for collection of re-usable materials from 9am-1pm. Easter Seals is also sending a truck at 4:30pm to pick up donations of clothing, pots & pans, household goods, etc.

Global Environmental Systems (GES), our WB neighbor will be on hand all day to recycle electronics. Basically, if it has a cord, they'll take it. GES is certified to safely dispose of/recycle computer systems as well. And as a special treat, we'll be collecting Styrofoam too!



## MUD Events

### Summer Movies in the Park!

Admission is FREE. Bring your blankets, chairs and snacks for the kids and enjoy these free family events. Pre-movie activities start at 8pm with the movies beginning at dusk. Community service groups will have refreshments available for purchase.

**July 12 • The Borrowers**

**August 9 • Free Birds**

### Teen Nights at the Pool

WB MUD will be hosting two more teen nights from 9pm-midnight at KF Pool this summer. These events are for teens ages 12-18. The cost of entry is \$3 for Rec. Tag holders and \$5 for Non Rec. Tag holders. Food and drinks will be provided.

**June 28 & July 26**

### Teen Basketball Clinics

This clinic is designed to hone your skills using drills, games and scrimmages indoors under the supervision of a coach. You're guaranteed to dribble away a better player!

Location: WB Rec. Center

Days: Mondays & Wednesdays, 12-3pm

Session 2: July 7-July 23 • Fee: \$100 per session



### Volleyball Clinics

Open to all levels, this unique and professionally run clinic will teach fundamentals of playing indoor and sand volleyball. Depending on the skill level, we

will teach everything from simple ball handling (passing and setting) to more advanced skills (hitting, serving, defense, offense). We will also work on conditioning and overall physique. Volleyball is a sport in which your child learns lessons of sportsmanship, communication and teamwork. Enroll at the Rec. Center or call 512-251-9814.

Tuesdays: 10am-Noon • KF Park Sand Court

Wednesdays: Noon-2pm • Rec. Center Gym

Session #1: July 8-July 24

Session #2: August 5- August 24

Fee: \$100 per session

### NEW Pre-Try Outs Volleyball Clinic

This "Get Ready for Tryouts" volleyball clinic is designed to help players get back into their volleyball shape and get them fully prepared for their school and club tryouts. This session is ideal for more experienced players who are serious about improving and building onto their current skills. We will teach advanced volleyball techniques and focus on high-level/high-impact drills. While playing we will also concentrate on tactical aspects of the game. In addition, we will work on conditioning, strengthening and enhancing overall physique.

#### WE WILL WORK HARD - TO PLAY HARD!

Where: Wells Branch Rec Center

When: July 29-July 31, 1-3PM

Level: Advanced / High School Age

Fee: \$95 (if registered/paid by July 15)

\$105 (if registered/paid after July 15)

Enroll at the Rec. Center or call 512-251-9814.

Questions: Contact Coach Nika at nika@austinsv.com

OR visit us at [www.austinsandvolleyball.com](http://www.austinsandvolleyball.com)



## Clip 'n Save Pool Schedule

Katherine Fleischer Pool		
May 5 - May 30		
Open Swim	M-F	3-9pm
	S-S	1-9pm
Lap Swim	M-F	3-4pm
		7:30-9pm
May 31 - August 24		
Open Swim	M-Th, Sa	10am-9pm
	F	4-9pm
	Su	1-9pm

Willow Bend Pool		
May 5 - June 3		
Open/Lap	S-S	1-6pm
Lap Swim	M-F	5:30-7:30am
	M-F	12-2pm
June 4 - August 24		
Open/Lap	M-F	2-9pm
	S-S	2-9pm
Lap Swim	M-F	5:30-7am
	M-F, Su	12-2pm

### Swim Lessons

Both Group and Private Swim Lessons are available all summer. Contact the Rec. Center at 512-251-9814 for more information and scheduling.

### Summer Art Mini-Camps

Take a break and give your kids a break with art enrichment mini-camps this summer. The regular camps are for children 7-12 with Jr. camps for children going into Kindergarten (ages 5-7). Each camp is half a day, three days a week for only \$40 with 40% of the fee dedicated to programs like trees for our parks. Register at the MUD Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive. For more info, visit: [www.wellsbranchmud.com](http://www.wellsbranchmud.com) or <https://sites.google.com/site/woodenitbewonderful/art-mini-camp-2013-1>.

**Jr. sessions (age 4 1/2-7)(pre-K /K /1) 9-11:30am T/W/Th**

**7/8-7/10 • Wild & Wacky Art of Science**

**7/15-7/17 • Seuss is back at camp!**

**8/5-8/7 • Sharks and Creatures of the Deep**

**General sessions (age 7 1/2-12) 12-3:30 pm T/W/Th**

**7/1-7/3 • Stars 'n Stripes**

**7/8-7/10 • Wild & Wacky Science Art**

**7/15-7/17 • In the Wild--Canvases and More - Painting and Drawing II**

**7/22-7/24 • Make It by Hand--Mosaics, Weaving, Sewing/Quilting, & Paper Mache**

**7/29-7/31 • Food Art (special time - 9am-12:30pm)**

**\*Not for kids with allergies**

**8/5-8/7 • Sharks and Creatures of the Deep**

## Piano Lessons

- Professional Teacher: BM, MM, DMA
- Students include local and state winners
- Beginning to Advanced
- Ages 4 & up
- Private piano and theory lessons

Sukyee Woo 512-252-9819  
[sukyeewoo@yahoo.com](mailto:sukyeewoo@yahoo.com)





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## Birding in WB-The Usual Suspects

by Sharon Richardson

We had a brief but delightful “wave” of migrating birds in Wells Branch this spring. May was particularly productive with several warblers, vireos and a Mississippi Kite seen around the pond and in the surrounding trails. It was all about being at the right place and at the right time, and craning your neck up to the tops of the trees. Check out some of the gorgeous photos taken by Rob White on the WBNA Facebook page under the album titled “2014 Spring Summer Rob White Photos”. A heavy rain during the bird’s migration season with a strong north front had the effect of causing a “fall-out” where, for a short time, Yellow, Wilson’s, Black-throated Green, American Redstarts, and Blackburnian Warblers as well as Red-eyed and Warbling Vireo’s were spotted feasting on little insects and caterpillars in the tree canopy before more conducive southerly winds encouraged them further northward towards their summer breeding grounds.

The Wells Branch guided bird walks are taking a pause for the summer as the days are hot and the bird activity slows down. This is a good time to get to know the “usual suspects”. The Green Herons have been especially active and even set up a nest in a WB neighbors’ backyard tree. Hatchlings are vulnerable and have a better chance immediately after they fledge from the nest if pet cats are kept indoors.

The WB bird walks will start up again in September. If you would like to receive updates on birding events in Wells Branch, send a request to Wanda Holcombe at [wandah70@gmail.com](mailto:wandah70@gmail.com).

**Purple Martin Viewing Parties** - A really interesting birding spectacle this summer will be the Purple Martin roost at the old Highland Mall. Every summer in July, Purple Martins gather together, sometimes numbering in the hundreds of

- If conflict DOES arise, be willing to swallow your pride and work with the person.
- Do stuff together!

## School Supplies:

- COMPARE PRICES OF TEXTBOOKS: Amazon, Chegg, Neebo, and Half Price Books.
- Email your professors ahead of time, some will email you back with things you’ll need, others won’t even check their email until the third week of class.
- Every syllabus is posted on the school website as required by law, check old syllabi for textbooks, materials, and recommended texts in order to get a head start.
- Dollar Tree, \$5 Below, Goodwill, Walgreens, and Walmart are your friends. Get coupons and member cards for free, get free stuff and discounted goods.
- School Merch is cool, it’s also over priced.
- Don’t buy everything on the syllabus until you know for sure you’ll use it, especially for art & science classes.

## Campus Life:

- Know the way to your classes before the first class.
- Hang out in social areas of your residence hall, there’s a 98% someone is going to be up and in there at any given hour. If not, try the kitchen.
- If you wish to party, it is easy to find them. If you wish to not party, it is easy to avoid them, “Party School” or not.
- All the social hierarchy and stigmas and cliques of high school, GONE. No one cares about who you hung out with in high school. It’s awesome!
- Football games. Go to at least one and stay through half-time. Go with a group, even if you don’t know everybody!

## Important Things to Note:

Most campuses have different programs, clubs, events, and organizations for you to explore and see what you like! Keep in touch with the student organizations and local groups to see what is happening. You may want to go home every weekend and see your parents, but you may miss out on a LOT of school events that happen on the weekends. Fall semester will be crazy with all the football games and school events and holidays, don’t overload your Fall classes. If your school has a different schedule than that, I recommend asking the upperclassmen.

thousands, and spend the nights in a group of trees at the edge of the mall parking lot near the Wells Fargo bank. Travis Audubon will host Purple Martin viewing parties every Friday and Saturday in July (with the exception of July 4<sup>th</sup>) from about 7:45 -9:00 pm. Bring a lawn chair and come be amazed at this natural spectacle that rivals the downtown bats!

*New WB Wildlife Viewing Station off the trail near the pond. Currently there is a small bench and a mini stick fence largely constructed with materials left over from other projects. Look soon for the addition of a small water feature and some shade loving native plants that will attract woodland birds. Thanks WBMUD!*



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### **Early Morning and Late Night COURTESY along our trails...**

Our trails are a wonderful place to exercise, walk dogs, and socialize, but early in the morning—before 8:00am, especially weekends, perhaps we could show a little extra courtesy towards our neighbors who back-up to the trails and may still be asleep. It's their morning too. Yelling, loud talking, and laughter is wonderful to hear through the day but not as a wake-up call.

Dogs barking after 10 or 11pm is also becoming problematic. We love our dog-friendly neighborhood, and residents do a great job of cleaning up after their pets, but when people are not at home and leave their dogs out at night, very often the unhappy animal barks and barks and barks until the owner returns. Please consider bringing your dog in before you leave for the evening or making arrangements for a neighbor to let it in if you're going to be away until the wee hours of the morn.

As the weather continues to warm up and we have to hit the trails earlier and tend to stay out a little later, we ask that folks be considerate of their neighbors, remembering that everyone does not rise early or go to sleep late at night.

Thank you for your consideration!

### **Seniors – Join the Silver Branchers!**

WB residents 55 and older are invited to join the Silver Branchers on Thursdays from 1-3pm in Room 4 of the WB Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline Dr. for fellowship & games. Membership is free. For more information, call 251-9814.

### **Art at Bratton's Edge Update**

Several projects have been competing for the same funds from TDHCA. Projects are ranked using a point system. This particular project was tied in rankings with another project seeking zoning changes. At the last minute, the other project withdrew its application. Although the final vote will not take place until the end of July, it looks like they will receive funding from TDHCA and move forward with the construction of the 72 unit apartment complex at the corner of Bratton and Long Vista.



### **WB Running Club** by Russell Jones

Wells Branch has a Running Club and it's FREE! The WBRC went to the Vern's 5k in Georgetown on 6/21 and peeked curiosity about the newest running club in our area. The next race, held right here in Wells Branch is the Caleb 5k sponsored by Shoreline Church (<http://www.caleb5k.com/>). We will be there and would love to have you join us. The club has grown to a strong and active membership so please help us spread the word.

The Wells Branch Running Club meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6 a.m. at the Katherine Fleischer Park gazebo next to the soccer field. If you are interested, come join us on a run. Check out our website and learn all about our workouts and upcoming races.

Feel free to call, e-mail, or text me with questions anytime  
(512) 825-2369 • [wbrunclub@gmail.com](mailto:wbrunclub@gmail.com) • [wbrunclub.com](http://wbrunclub.com)

# Community Calendar

**SIGN UP NOW for Summer Programs at the Rec. Center!**

**Stuff2Do Camp • Art Camp • Volleyball & Basketball Camps**

June 28, 9pm-12am: Teen Pool Party, KF Pool\*

July 1, 5:30pm: IMPORTANT MUD Board Meeting • Park Master Plan & Soccer Fields, WBCC\*

**JULY 4 • FOURTHFEST 2014 • ALL DAY, KF Park • Fireworks at night!\***

July 12, 8am-1pm: Habitat for Humanity Collection, 13905 Thermal\*

July 12, 8am-4pm: Easter Seals Collection, 13905 Thermal\*

July 12, 8am-5pm: Hazardous Waste, Metal & Bulk Trash Collection, 13905 Thermal\*

July 12, 8am-5pm: Electronics Recycling, 13905 Thermal\*

July 12, 8am-5pm: Styrofoam Collection, 13905 Thermal\*

July 12, Dusk: Movie in the Park - The Borrowers, KF Park\*

July 26, 9pm-12am: Teen Pool Party, KF Pool\*

July 19, 11am: Garden Guild - Container Gardening, WBRC\*

Aug. 9, 5pm: St. Andrew's Variety Show, 14311 Wells Port Dr.

Aug. 9, Dusk: Movie in the Park - Free Birds, KF Park\*

Aug. 16, 11am: Garden Guild - Potluck & Planning Session, WBRC\*

Aug. 18, 5pm: Deadline to file for place on MUD Board for Nov. 4 ballot\*\*

Aug. 30, 6-9pm: Labor Day Casino Night, WBCC\*

Sept. 6 & 7, 2-4pm: Venture Crew Open House, WBRC\*

Sept. 13, 6pm: Open Ears Concert - Artist TBA - St. Andrews on Wells Port

Sept. 21, 10am-2pm: Renaissance Day in the Park, KF Park\*\*

\*See WBNA.us \*\*See wellsbranchMUD.com

## RECURRING

Silver Branchers, Thursday, 1-3pm, WBRC



Meets 6pm Tuesdays at the Live for More Center in Bratton Square

## 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

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- ◆ Northwest Elementary or Wells Branch Elementary
- ◆ Wells Branch Library or Friends of the Wells Branch Library
- ◆ Wells Branch Armada Youth Swim Team

*EXTRA MONEY: Donation doubles if you volunteer there & I donate for both the client AND the person who referred the client!*



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## Temporary Road Closures • July 12



Shoreline Church will be hosting the Caleb 5K on Saturday, July 12, resulting in temporary road closures beginning at 7:20am. The signs will go up at 6:00am, but we've been assured that **entry/exit from individual streets/ parking lots and intersections will only be blocked as runners are passing/ crossing through.**

The course is as follows with entry and exit from Shoreline Church's northwest entrance on Shoreline Drive: Shoreline → Bratton → Merrilltown → Burnet → Shoreline

Shoreline Church invites the WB community to participate in the race, followed by an epic water balloon fight. For more info, visit: [www.caleb5k.com](http://www.caleb5k.com)

## 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 2014

Summer 2014

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**