



## Annual WBNA Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 15, 10:30am • Come Early!

Homestead at KF Park

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

Want to help? Email [info@wbna.us](mailto:info@wbna.us) or call 512-656-0654.

### Easter Egg Hunt RULES:

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

#### Age Groups:

##### 0-3 yrs

- \*Only 1 parent per child in egg hunting area
- \*Watch out for potential choking hazards

##### 4-6 yrs • 7-9 yrs • 10-12 yrs

- \* No parents allowed in egg hunting area

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

**Check all eggs for prizes.**

**Recycle your eggs with the WBNA.**

**Have FUN!**



## Bike & Trail Connectivity Meeting

April 20 • 7pm

WB Community Center • 2106 Klattenhoff

The WBNA will be hosting a meeting coordinated by the Public Works division of the City of Austin to include the planners for COA urban trails, bike lanes, and sidewalks, as well as the corresponding Travis County departments as WB is in the COA ETJ. There'll be a presentation followed by a Q & A session with a basic overview of the current systems in place and what is planned (Urban Trails, Tier I & Tier II and forecast timeline for safe overall connectivity for Wells Branch and far North Austin, off road where possible).

Our neighborhood has invested heavily in our trail system, but the MUD can only affect trails within its boundaries; we're isolated here and cannot easily and safely connect to any other trail system. Coordination of central authorities (Travis County, COA, MUD) to develop plans to connect our neighborhood with other communities would be ideal. As one resident put it, *"I can ride my bike pretty much anywhere but the level of safety that I feel varies greatly depending on the infrastructure. If I could ride with my boys up to the train station, SAFELY, we could get downtown and tool around the lake. Same goes for getting to Walnut Creek."*

Our goal for this meeting is to find out, as residents in the ETJ, how we can impact the plan and where to start. We look forward to learning more and hope you'll join us!

The City of Austin is hosting **Walk & Bike Talks** to discuss a **Pedestrian Safety Action Plan** and implementing the **Bicycle Master Plan**. See [wbna.us](http://wbna.us) for details and meeting dates.

## Inside this Issue

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## WBNA 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 and services to auction. In return, you receive exposure for your business at the auction, a special "Thank You" section in the September issue of the WBNA Neighborhood News and on our website and Facebook page with links to your site.

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

## Mr. PC's Computer Corner by Dave DeVore

Not a day goes by that I don't see the aftermath of various computer viruses, malware, phishing scams, fake telephone or Internet "tech support" hoaxes, etc. To help keep my WB neighbors safer from these threats, and to save myself the aggravation of fixing these avoidable problems, I will concentrate in the next several months in this space on several simple ways that we can protect ourselves. Please share this information with your friends and families.

The threat that we'll look at this month concerns pop-ups or web pages that won't let you leave them without clicking on something. When you get to a web page and a suspicious pop-up window appears, the web site you've gone to is more than likely infected, or not the actual web site you thought you were navigating to. How can this happen? You can demonstrate it easily for yourself. Google "HP Tech Support" and the first 4 or 5 results are ads for fake web sites, complete with BBB, Microsoft and HP logos, an 800 number and usually a chat window to get live "help." The real HP web site is further down the search results page. Never click on a popup you are unsure of because it means, "Please infect my computer."

What should you do if you find yourself stuck on a sketchy web page or get a questionable popup? Here comes that old standby, CTRL+ALT+DEL, to the rescue. You old-timers will remember this keystroke combination we used to restart the old DOS computers. You tap all three keys at once. Windows computers use this to bring up a screen with several useful options. One of them is Task Manager. You click on it and a program appears which allows you to highlight the offending browser or program. Left click on its name, for example, Google Chrome, then go to the bottom right of the window and click End Task. The program is ended without clicking on any of the bait the bad guys have set out for you. The next time you use the program or browser you just canceled, it will probably ask if you want to Restore pages. Say NO or click X, otherwise, you will be right back at the web site you were trying to escape from. Problem solved!

## WB Crime Stats Reminder

As an added feature for our neighborhood watch groups, the WBNA posts monthly crime statistics for Wells Branch, as supplied by the Travis County Sheriff's Office, under the 'Safety' tab at [wbna.us](http://wbna.us). For daily emails regarding criminal activity, sign up for emails at [SpotCrime.com](http://SpotCrime.com).



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## Severe Weather & Deutschen Pfest

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



May is Severe Weather Preparedness Month for the Wells Branch and Pflugerville communities. While flooding, tornados, lightning, and heat waves are facts of life in this region, they don't have to be deadly! By taking a common sense approach and discussing your plan as a family, you can keep yourself and your loved ones safer from these natural threats this Spring and Summer.

### Flooding: TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN

Flash floods are very common in Central Texas. Most people who lose their lives in floods were in cars with drivers who tried to drive through floodwaters. It only takes 1 to 2 feet of moving water to force a vehicle off the road – even an SUV or a pick-up truck! It is **NEVER** safe to drive or walk into flood waters. For pedestrians, just six inches of rushing water can knock down an adult.



Always obey all flood barricades and warning signs. Be especially careful when driving or walking at night when it's much harder to recognize flood dangers. If the forecast calls for heavy or steady rainfall, avoid parking, camping or hiking along creeks, streams, and rivers. Remind your children to never play near bodies of water during or after heavy rain.

### Tornadoes: GET IN, GET DOWN, COVER UP

A tornado **WATCH** means tornadoes are possible. Remain alert and watch the sky. Get ready. Stay tuned to a weather radio or TV for updates. A tornado **WARNING** means a tornado has actually been spotted near you or indicated by weather radar. **Take shelter NOW!**

**Get In!** If you are outside, get inside. If you're already inside, get as far into the middle of the building as possible. Enclose yourself in a closet or interior hallway without windows. (If you're driving, never try to hide from a tornado under an overpass; you are safer in a low, flat location. Don't try to outrun a tornado while driving in a city or traffic. Just try to get into a safe building; being inside is safer than being in or near a car.)

**Get Down!** Try to go underground. If you can't, get down to the lowest floor/location possible.

**Cover Up!** Flying/falling debris is a tornado's #1 killer! Get under a sturdy table. Use bike helmets, coats, pillows, blankets, your arms, etc. to cover your head and body. Put on sturdy shoes.

### Lightning: WHEN THUNDER ROARS, GO INDOORS

If you can hear thunder, even a distant rumble, you are in danger and need to immediately get to a safe place. Fully enclosed buildings with wiring and plumbing provide the best protection. There is no safe place outside in a thunderstorm. Sheds, picnic shelters, tents, dug-outs, and covered porches

*ESD News continued on page 5*

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



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one cup at a time.*

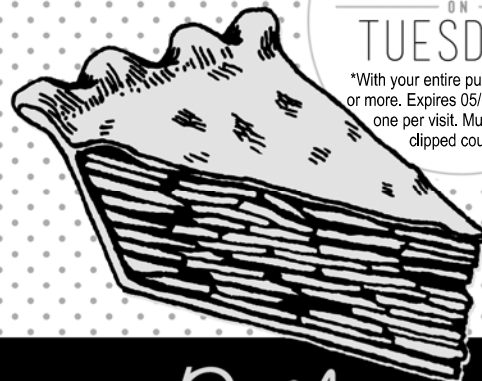
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## Butterfly Bulletin

by Shelley Palmer, Texas Master Naturalist

### To create your own butterfly habitat, you'll need:

- A couple of nice flat rocks in a sunny spot. Since insects are cold blooded, they depend on the sunshine to get their juices going in the morning.
- Also needed is a shady place where they can hide from the intense heat of midday.
- Shelter from strong winds so they can keep their fragile wings from being torn.
- Host plants for their caterpillars to munch on.
- Plants that are nectar sources for the adults.
- Mass plantings of host and nectar plants (not just one or two plants), because the butterflies are often competing with each other and with other species for the same food.
- Having a variety of plants with bright flowers planted, so that as one kind of flower finishes its bloom, another flowering plant comes into bloom, providing a constant food source.
- No pesticides! Not too crazy about herbicides either.
- Keep some leaf litter in an area in the yard to aid the butterflies in winter survival.
- Have mud puddles for them to drink the water and absorb minerals. (They also like rotted fruit.)
- Keep bird feeders in a separate part of the yard, so your butterfly garden doesn't become a bird buffet.

Be sure and visit our own WB Eastside Butterfly Garden. Park just north of the WB MUD Annex at 14611 Wells Port and follow the trail east southeast.

### Planting for the Monarchs:

Monarchs can use many nectar plants but they will be looking for milkweed to lay their eggs. Our natives are the best to plant: Antelope Horn - *Asclepias asperul*, Green Milkweed - *Asclepias viridis*, Swamp Milkweed - *Asclepias incarnate*

### Problems with planting Tropical Milkweed (*Asclepias curassavica*) in Central Texas

Possible problems are:

- Ophryocystis elektroscirrha (OE) disease spores build up on overused Tropical Milkweed plants.
- The Monarchs aren't finishing their fall migration because viable milkweed is available year-round in the US. Tropical milkweed doesn't die back on its own in some of our warmer winters.

It is hard to know how big a problem these issues are. The fix is to cut the plant back in late fall when you see a drop in Monarch activity. Tropical Milkweed should be planted along with our native milkweed.

The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center ([wildflower.org/](http://wildflower.org/)) will be hosting its annual Spring Sale April 7- 9, 2017. For a shopping list of plants that attract butterflies, please visit: [wbna.us/community/butterfly-gardens](http://wbna.us/community/butterfly-gardens).



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*ESD News continued from page 3*

do NOT protect you from lightning! If a sturdy building is not available, get inside a hard-topped metal vehicle and close the windows. Avoid open areas, tall isolated objects, electrical equipment/wiring, and baths/showers. Also avoid using a corded phone, except for emergencies.

Don't be fooled by blue skies! Lightning often strikes outside of heavy rain. The threat of lightning extends 6-10 miles outward from the base of a thunderstorm cloud. Many lightning deaths occur ahead of storms or after they seemed to pass.

### Family Fun at Deutschen Pfest, May 20

Bring your family to Deutschen Pfest on Sat., May 20, at Pfluger Park in Pflugerville. Travis County ESD No. 2 will have our Fire Safety House open from 12 to 6 pm for fun, family-friendly lessons on severe weather safety! We'll also have an information table to give away great prizes and answer your fire safety and weather preparedness questions.



### WB Armada News by Peter Mielcarek, Board President

Registration has already begun for returning swimmers. Online registration for new members begins at 2pm, March 25. Onsite registration will be held from 2-4pm on March 25 at the WB Recreation Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive. Please continue to check our website: <https://wellsbranch.swimtopia.com/> for updates as they become available. Questions? email [pertermielcarek17@gmail.com](mailto:pertermielcarek17@gmail.com).

### Coyote Sightings in WB

With the increase in construction just north and west of Wells Branch, we've seen a rise in coyote sightings inside the neighborhood, hearing packs at night, and reports of several missing cats. Typically coyotes like to keep a low profile, BUT January to March is their mating season and they can become more aggressive. Then, when they have/raise pups in April & May, the Moms need a lot of calories to keep the pups fed.



*Photo by Brian Walters  
off Mocha Trail*

As they go through this annual cycle, be sure to keep cats indoors and dogs on a leash, especially around dawn & dusk.

**Here are links to a great hand out from Travis County** to download, the City of Austin page on coyotes, and the Humane Society page. All cover tips on deterring coyotes and discuss how to best protect your fur babies.

- **Living with Urban Coyotes in Austin/Travis County - What to do. Who to call.** [austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Animal\\_Services/UrbanCoyote-web.pdf](http://austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Animal_Services/UrbanCoyote-web.pdf)
- <http://www.austintexas.gov/department/coyotes-central-texas>
- [http://www.humanesociety.org/animals/coyotes/tips/coyotes\\_pets.html](http://www.humanesociety.org/animals/coyotes/tips/coyotes_pets.html)

**Be safe, not sorry!**

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### Reduce • Reuse • Recycle

Mark your calendars for

### Extreme Clean Spring - April 8

Bulk Trash, E-cycling, Household Waste (paint, anti-freeze, household batteries), Metal and Styrofoam collection from 8am-5pm, Habitat for Humanity from 8am-1pm, Easter Seals donations, Pet Supply donations, and ATXHAW collections for those experiencing homelessness from 8am-4pm, the MUD's Drug Take-Back Program from 8am-Noon and FREE Shredding from 8am-1pm at the Wells Branch MUD Maintenance Yard, 13905 Thermal Drive.

We'll be also be accepting Yard Chemicals (Pesticides, Fertilizers, Fungicides, Herbicides) for repurposing from 8am-5pm at 2606 Tracy Trail. All items must be labeled and in closed containers.

**For questions or to VOLUNTEER, contact us via [info@wbna.us](mailto:info@wbna.us) or 512-656-0654.**

**Thank you for participating in Extreme Clean Spring and keeping harmful chemicals out of our watershed!**

**- Wells Branch Neighborhood Association**

## Register for Central Texas Emergency Warnings

by Lisa Block, Travis County PIO

Register your cell phone, phone landline or email address to receive emergency alerts for your specific neighborhood at [WarnCentralTexas.org](http://WarnCentralTexas.org). Contact information, including phone numbers and email addresses, is only used for emergency and major incident notification. [WarnCentralTexas.org](http://WarnCentralTexas.org) serves Travis, Williamson and surrounding Counties. A nice feature of this emergency notification system is that people can register several addresses for warnings, so if you have loved ones at a location separate from your home, you can also receive emergency notification for their location.

## Save the Date!

Wells Branch Elementary

## Springfest

April 8 | 2:00 – 6:00 pm



- Games
- Bounce Houses
- Face Painting
- Food
- Entertainment
- Silent Auction and MORE!

*Buy your tickets in advance or  
purchase the day of the event.*

[springfestcommittee2017@wellsbranchpta.org](mailto:springfestcommittee2017@wellsbranchpta.org)

## GS Cookie Thank You!

by Emily Berver



A big **THANK YOU** to everyone that supported the Girl Scout Cookie sale fundraiser! In addition to getting to enjoy some delicious cookies, this fund raiser helps girls develop self-confidence and valuable real world skills for marketing, money management and decision making. The entire proceeds from the sale stay local and support not only individual troop endeavors, but also area camps and programming that ranges from outdoor skills to STEM to Media relations.

## Thor Reese, Eagle Scout

by Kevin Reese



Thor Bjorn Falcon Reese was awarded the highest rank in Boy Scouts of America, the Eagle badge, on Saturday, January 28, 2017. His Eagle Ceremony was held at the Capitol Area Council B.S.A. headquarters, the Frank Fickett Center, on the corner of Parmer and I35.

Thor has been active in Scouting since first grade in Washington State. When he moved to Texas, he joined Pack 140 here in Wells Branch. Thor served as Senior Patrol Leader in two troops: Wells Branch 1409 and 685 in Pflugerville.

His Eagle Project was to expand and improve the Eastside Butterfly Garden, here in Wells Branch, located along the greenbelt path where the disc golf used to start. Thor worked closely with Shelley Palmer, a Wells Branch landscaper, to develop and install many plants necessary for the Monarch Butterflies during their migration.

To Thor and All our Boy and Girl Scouts serving Wells Branch and our Nation, we say, God Bless you, we love you and we thank you!



## WB MUD Sponsored Events

### Pioneer Festival

Saturday, April 1 • Noon-5pm • WB Homestead

A Wells Branch tradition, the annual Pioneer Festival celebrates Texas history by offering a window to our past. Pioneer Fest is centered around the historic WB Gault Homestead, the 1850s-era cabin in Katherine Fleischer Park and features fun and educational activities throughout the day. Demonstrations include butter churning, candle dipping, weaving, and log splitting, just to name a few. You will also find exhibits of weavers, spinners, and all sorts of 1850s era displays. There will be fun things for the kids to make and take, pony rides and even a petting zoo. Concessions will be available for purchase. If you would like to volunteer or have a craft or activity from that period for demonstration, or any questions, call the MUD office at 512-251-9814.

### Spring Youth Fishing Tournament

Saturday, May 6 • 9am-Noon • Mills Pond

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

### Don't Mess With Texas Trash Off

Saturday, April 8 • 9am-Noon

WB MUD Office, 14611 Wells Port Dr.

The Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off is the single largest one-day cleanup event in the state and serves as Texas' signature event for the Great American Cleanup, the nation's largest community improvement program.

We will meet at the WB MUD office and will focus on areas in and around the creek so wear your boots and long sleeved shirts.



### WB Photo Club Update

by Margaret McGhee-Sufke

The purpose of our group is to share the knowledge and tools of photography. All of our sessions are "drop in" and anyone at any skill level is welcome to attend. Our group meets the second Tuesday of each month, in the WB Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive at 6:30pm. Sessions usually last about 2 hours.

We are looking for member input or requests for topics in April and May. Contact Margaret at mmsufke@gmail.com with questions and watch for updates on the WBNA website and Facebook page.



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## Clip 'n Save Pool Hours

### Katherine Fleischer (KF) Pool

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**May 1 - May 31\***

Open Swim	M-F	3-9pm
	S-S	1-9pm
Lap Swim	M-F	3-4pm
	M-F	7:30-9:30pm

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

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

### Willow Bend Pool

2801 Sauls • 512-310-1833

**May 1 - June 1\***

Open/Lap	S-S	1-9pm
Lap Swim	M-F	5:30-7:00am
	M-F	12-2pm*

*\*Closed after 2pm due to Armada swim team practice*

*\*WB Pool will be open for open/lap swim from 2-9pm on Monday, May 29*

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

Preschool Beginner & Preschool Intermediate swim classes will be offered on Saturdays in May, instead of during the week.

For questions about pool operations, feel free to contact the Aquatics Supervisor Katie Hutcheson at 512-251-9814 x111 or [khutcheson@wellsbranchmud.com](mailto:khutcheson@wellsbranchmud.com).

## Northwest Elementary 30 Year Anniversary Celebration

and  
**Spring Fling**

**Saturday, April 22 • 4-6pm**

**Northwest Elementary • 14014 Thermal Drive**

**Moonwalks • Petting Zoo**

**Dunk Tanks • Games • Food**

**Purchase your tickets at the door!**

## WB Business Spotlight by Debby Thompson

Wells Branch is home to many small businesses. If they thrive, we thrive. We continue to feature an ongoing series on our area establishments. Remember that sales tax paid within Wells Branch from your purchases benefit both the Library and the Fire Department (ESD#2). The continued success of the merchants in the district directly influence our property values. When we "Shop WB" we all benefit.

**Skincare for You** - Longtime Wells Branch friend and neighbor, Tracy Yuan, has recently opened a studio inside City Hair and Nails at 3407 WB Pkwy. A licensed esthetician, Tracy can help you with all of your skincare needs. She's currently offering weekend specials on lashes, a full set for only \$75!

You can reach Tracy at 512-825-2256 or [skincareforyoubytacy@gmail.com](mailto:skincareforyoubytacy@gmail.com). Book your appointment today!



## THANKS, ESD #2!

We're so fortunate here in Wells Branch to have an active, engaged fire department. Our firefighters at Pflugerville Fire have always treated our community like family. In February, Chief Ron Moellenberg gave a State of the Department address at the Community Center and brought out their brand new ambulance for everyone to see. BSA Cub Scout Pack 728 learned about equipment functions, radio communication, and transport. Chief's address can be found on the WBNA Facebook page at: [facebook.com/205101652856649/videos/1463544913678977/](https://facebook.com/205101652856649/videos/1463544913678977/)





## Aquafit Classes by Katie Hutcheson

WB MUD offers Aqua-fit classes year-round each Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1-2pm at Willow Bend Pool. This class requires the MUD Multi-class card; for more information visit [wellsbranchmud.com](http://wellsbranchmud.com).

Please wear swim attire, bring a water bottle and towel.

If it is raining or below 55° we will not meet. Otherwise, we are there year round. See you at the pool! For more information, contact Katie Hutcheson at 512-516-2621 or [khutcheson@wellsbranchmud.com](mailto:khutcheson@wellsbranchmud.com)

## WB Walking Club

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



## WB Running Club by Russell Jones

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



## European Dance Guild

Come learn something NEW (or OLD, as the case may be). The European Dance Guild meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, from 6 to 8pm in Room 101 of the Rec.

Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive. The meeting is free and open to the public. No previous experience is required. Every dance is taught before it is danced to music. If you can walk, you can do this type of dance. If you have any questions, please contact Daniel White at 512-413-0097.

## WBNA Officer Election Results

by Debby Thompson, WBNA President

Congratulations to the following Board Members who were re-elected at our January meeting: Lara Bennett, Donna Malone, Donna Lyons, and Margaret Sufke. These individuals have done a spectacular job of serving the Wells Branch community in the past. We look forward to the next two years!

## "Cutting the Cable" VIDEO

In March, Daniel White of the DIY Club offered an insightful presentation on how to "Cut the Cable" and free yourself from the expense of cable subscription and equipment while maintaining access to desired programming. You can access the video from the WBNA Facebook page at:

[facebook.com/205101652856649/videos/1481666275200174/](https://facebook.com/205101652856649/videos/1481666275200174/)

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Mon. – Thurs. 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.  
Fri. – Sat. 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Sun. 1 p.m. – 6 p.m.

## LIBRARY EVENTS

### Teen Fantastic Beasts Party

Tuesday, March 28 at 5:30 p.m.

Enjoy pizza and crafts at a free screening of *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* (PG-13)!

### Caring for Injured Wildlife

Wednesday, April 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Learn how to help injured birds and mammals with Austin Wildlife Rescue.

### Muffins with Moms

Saturday, May 13 at 10 a.m.

Enjoy morning refreshments and a special concert for kids and moms. Free, with no registration.

## UPCOMING CLOSURES

### Thursday, April 6

Opening late at noon

### Sunday, April 16

Library closed

### Thursday, April 27

Library closed for inventory

### Monday, May 29

Library closed for Memorial Day

## Drop Everything And Read (D.E.A.R.) Day

Wednesday, April 12

(Public computers unavailable all day.)

Special Mini-horse Storytime at 3:30 p.m.



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

## KIDS & TEENS

### Beauty and the Beast Tea Party

Saturday, April 29 at 10 a.m.

Tea, crafts, a movie viewing, and a visit from Belle!  
Register at [wblibrary.eventbrite.com](http://wblibrary.eventbrite.com).

### LEGO Lab

Mondays from 4-5 p.m.

LEGO robotics and free play for ages 5+. No registration.

### Storytime & Craft

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. & Saturdays at 11 a.m.

All ages. Tickets available 30 minutes before program at the kids desk.

### Wiggle Worms

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

Free play with toys for ages 1-4.

### Arts and Crafts

Wednesdays at 6 p.m. (Tickets available at 5:30 p.m.)

Make a new craft each week!

### La Hora del Cuento

El 2° y 4° jueves a las 11 a.m.

Para los niños de 0-5 años en español.

### Teen Library Council Meetings

Second Saturday of each month at 2 p.m.

Help plan teen library programs! Ages 10+ welcome.

## ADULTS

### Planning for College Expenses Financial Seminar

Thursday, April 13 at 6:30 p.m.

Learn how to plan for your kids' college years. Register online at [wblibrary.eventbrite.com](http://wblibrary.eventbrite.com).

### Spanish Conversation Hour

First Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

Practice your speaking and listening skills with others.

### Wells Branch Writers' Guild

First Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Visit the library's website to join the online forum!

### English Conversation Group

First and third Saturdays of each month at 10:30 a.m.

All skill levels welcome.

### DIY Wednesdays

Second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. Ages 16+.

Learn a new skill every month at the library! Register online at [wblibrary.eventbrite.com](http://wblibrary.eventbrite.com).

- April 12: Hand-sewn Pillows

- May 10: Topic TBD

### Computer and Career Workshops

Explore topics like Microsoft Word and Excel, résumé help, and more. See all class offerings and register online at [wblibrary.eventbrite.com](http://wblibrary.eventbrite.com).

## Project Graduation

Project Graduation is an event hosted by the parents of the senior class to ensure that all McNeil & Connally HS Seniors have a safe, drug & alcohol free graduation celebration. Statistically Graduation Night has one of the highest instances for DWI wrecks and fatalities for seniors. Please support the efforts of these parents and keep our graduates safe!

### McNeil Project Grad 2017 by Amy Weir

MHS Project Grad will turn no student away for inability to pay ***so we need the support of the entire community to make this event happen.*** How can you help?

### Ford Drive 4 UR School

Covert Ford will bring several vehicles up to McNeil on Saturday, April 8th, anyone with a valid driver's license is given the opportunity to test drive the vehicles **COMPLETELY FREE OF ANY SALES PITCH.** Ford National Corp. asks for a survey after each test drive - for each test drive/completed survey, Ford will donate \$20 to McNeil Project Graduation. We are hoping to have 300 people test drive and fill out the survey. The great folks at Covert Ford will not be trying to sell you anything, they aren't even open on that Saturday, so are completely unable to even talk sales.

We will have a list of vehicles on our website <http://mcneil-projectgrad.ch2v.com> and an approximate time sign-up at [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0F4CAFA723A4FA7-mcneil](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0F4CAFA723A4FA7-mcneil)

You can also support the seniors by making a donation to McNeil Project Graduation online at the web store <http://mcneilprojectgrad.ch2v.com>.

### Connally HS Project Grad by David & Holly Books

**Reverse Raffle Dinner and Silent Auction:** On Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> we had a very successful event at the Lion's Club in Pflugerville. We'd like to thank all of our community supporters who donated items, bought tickets to the event, attended and purchased any of our silent or live auction items. It was our biggest fundraiser of the year and we truly appreciate everyone's support! We hope everyone had a great time!

**Cougar Crop:** Come enjoy a FULL DAY of Scrapbooking at CHS. CC2017 is planning an All Day Crop. Join us on May 6, 2017 from 8am to 6pm at CHS. Your \$30 ticket price will include generous table space, snacks and beverages, lunch, a chance to win fabulous door prizes, a silent auction with scrapbook supplies and craft items & tons of fun! For information, please contact Teresa Nicholson, 512-965-0276, [teresa@thecasinoconnection.com](mailto:teresa@thecasinoconnection.com).

## Athlos Leadership Academy

by Marisa Sawatphadungkij

It's Open Enrollment Period! Our charter school welcomes applications from K - 8th grade. We are located right in the heart of Wells Branch. Visit our website for more information. <http://www.athlosaustin.org/>.

Come and see what we are all about at upcoming events:

April 27: Spirit Night - Chipotle (La Frontera)

May 12: Spring Color Fun Run (Athlos Campus)

For more information: <http://www.ala.my-pto.org>

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## Joe Lee Johnson STEAM Academy News

**JJL PTA** by Stephanie Hilchey, Secretary, JJL PTA

Thank you to all of our students, families, and community members who came out for the Glow Party in February! We had such a fantastic turnout for an evening of dancing, food and fun. Thank you to our Trailblazer volunteers for partnering with us to make Spirit Week and the Glow Party such a big success. We could not have coordinated such a big event without your help!

### Upcoming Activities:

- April 4 • Trailblazer Community Meeting (PTA Meeting)  
6:15 - 7:30 pm
- April 5 • Early Release at 12:00pm
- April 14 • No School
- April 20 • STEAM Showcase
- May 2 • Trailblazer Community Meeting (PTA Meeting)  
6:15 - 7:30 pm
- May 19 • Field Day (during school)



## JJL STEAM Garden News

by Heather Johnson

In March, 3rd graders in Ms. Sanders class engineered vines in our outdoor learning garden. The children used available materials, including bamboo and string, to create a trellis for the vines, which they planted from seed.

As a part of the engineering design process, students previously created prototypes through work with marshmallows and dried spaghetti developing understanding of the principles of building. STEAM integration by design supporting growth in the garden!

## Concordia High School

by Jim Binneboese

As the school year progresses into the second half, many students celebrated spring break by participating in various local and international mission trips. April 7 is the very important Jr. and Sr. prom. Our year finishes with a formal graduation exercise for our 36 seniors on May 26 at the Faith Lutheran Church in Georgetown.



June 11 is a very special day as we hold the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Golf Scramble at the Golf Club at Star Ranch and the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Cardinals on the Green family celebration also at Star Ranch in Hutto. Funds raised at this event are used to enhance the scholarship programs at Concordia. For those who may not be able to completely fund the tuition, parents are encouraged to contact the school for possible scholarship assistance. Early Bird registrations and discounts are available now by calling the school office at 512-248-2547. Cardinals on the Green runs from 5pm to about 8:30pm. You can contact the school office at the number listed above or visit [chsaustin.org/cardinalsonthegreen.com](http://chsaustin.org/cardinalsonthegreen.com).

Concordia High School is temporarily located at 1500 Royston Lane in Round Rock with a permanent campus being planned for property already purchased on Heatherwilde Blvd. in Pflugerville. This property is about 3 miles from Wells Branch. Please call the school office for more details.

## Wells Branch Soccer is Growing!

by Leisha Richardson, Secretary, Wells Branch Soccer Association

It's a great time to play soccer in Wells Branch with so many exciting things happening right here in our neighborhood. The WBSA roster hit a new record this season with 372 players across 41 total teams from U4-U17, which includes 33 recreational teams, 1 pre-academy team and 8 select teams. The WBSA Select and Academy programs continue to grow as well with three new select teams forming this spring season. The select and academy programs provide excellent opportunities for area recreational players that are ready to move to advanced teams right here in Wells Branch.

The Wells Branch Soccer spring season officially kicked off the weekend of February 25 and the cool sunny weather made for an ideal opening weekend. The extra care provided for the fields by the Wells Branch MUD and staff ensured that all games were playing on great pitches. And thanks to the continued support from the WB MUD, the new Wells Branch Soccer Complex is well underway with the completion of the pavilion and sod being laid for the fields. All WBSA players, coaches and families are looking forward to playing on these new fields in the coming fall season. Games will continue for the 372 registered players through the first weekend of May. Be sure to come out and support your neighborhood teams and cheer them on!

Visit [wellbranchsoccer.com](http://wellbranchsoccer.com) and follow us on Facebook for information about upcoming WBSA events, including our end of season party and try-outs and observations for select and academy teams for next season.



A special thanks to Tim Shaffer for capturing some great photos of the first games of the season.

## CHAPARRAL STAR ACADEMY

**Speech Team Fundraiser**

**Saturday, April 22 • 7:30am**

**14046 Summit Drive (off WB Pkwy)**

**COMMUNITY-WIDE  
GARAGE  
SALE**

Baby toys/clothes,  
exercise equipment,  
furniture,  
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## WBE Arts Integration Academy News

### PTA Update by Laura Gomez-Horton, Secretary, WBE AIA PTA

What a great start to the new year! The Wells Branch PTA would like to recognize all the hard work by the students, families, teachers, and staff thus far. From UIL competitions, to public performances and exhibitions, our school has been far and wide. The PTA in particular is now focused on our biggest fund raiser of the year, Springfest, as well as end of the year activities!!!!

### SPRINGFEST 2017! Save the date for April 8, 2017, 2-6pm

Last year, Springfest raised \$20,000, all of which was used to provide resources to our students and teachers. The day will include games, bounce houses, face painting, food, entertainment, a silent auction and more. Tickets for games and food can be bought in advance or the day of the event. This is a great family and neighborhood event. Everyone is welcome!

**Volunteers:** Our volunteers truly make Springfest a success. Please consider donating one hour of your time to help this event continue to flourish!

**Silent Auction - Ways to Donate:** You or your employer can donate an item, event tickets, gift basket or gift cards for products, services (eg: handyman, electrician, painter, landscaper) that will be showcased to over 500 families.

For information on volunteering or making a donation, please contact us at [springfestcommittee2017@wellsbranchpta.org](mailto:springfestcommittee2017@wellsbranchpta.org).

### Reserve your year book!

Wells Branch Elementary is celebrating its first year as an Arts Integration Academy and there is no better way to preserve the memories than with its first ever yearbook! Each copy is \$20. Purchase online at [www.Balfour.com](http://www.Balfour.com) and enter 'Wells Branch Elementary'. The last day to purchase online is May 15. Contact Lucia Weinmeister at [lweinmeister@gmail.com](mailto:lweinmeister@gmail.com)

### WBE AIA Farmer's Market by Dianne Koehler

**All ORGANIC** Farmer's Market each Friday from 2:45pm until we run out. We'll have fresh produce and plants every Friday until late May.



The freeze slowed us down a bit, but our 5th grade students are harvesting and raising seedlings for you to take home and plant. Plants run \$1-\$5 each. Most produce is \$1. We expect to have lots of salad greens, beets, broccoli and a few other selections available throughout the spring.

The Farmer's Market is held at 14650 Merriltown (corner of Merriltown & Town Hill) by the bike racks. We sell out fast so get there early! Watch for weekly updates on the WB Google Group and on Facebook (WBNA & WB Melting Pot).

### Pioneer Pals by Gwendolyn Johnson, WB Homestead Curator

Calling all Preschoolers! Bring your caregiver and join Ms. Gwendolyn at the Homestead every Wednesday at 9:30am for Pioneer Pals. We read stories, sing songs, and do fun activities and crafts. Come learn about nature and Texas history and make some new friends too! For more information about this free program, email [gjohnson@wellsbranchmud.com](mailto:gjohnson@wellsbranchmud.com).

## Northwest Elementary by Cindy Padavick

### Northwest Elementary 30 Year Anniversary Celebration & Spring Fling Saturday, April 22 from 4-6pm



Come out and help our Northwest family celebrate 30 years of service! We'll have moon-walks, a petting zoo, dunk tanks, and lots of games and food! In order to make this a successful event, **we need your help!** Please email our PTO president, Julie Schwartz, at [ms.julie.schwartz@gmail.com](mailto:ms.julie.schwartz@gmail.com), for more information or if you are able to volunteer or contribute.

### Coffee With the Principal

Coffee with the principal is held every Monday from 7:10-7:40 am in the NES teacher's lounge. All parents are invited to enjoy refreshments and discuss general happenings at Northwest. Hope to see you there!

## Harmony Science Academy

by Clarissa Davila, Campus Outreach Coordinator - North Austin



Please join us on Saturday, March 25 from 10am - 12:30pm for our Annual Language Olympiad. Students will have performances in Spanish, Turkish and French in categories such as folk dance, song, poem readings and other exciting talents. This is a free community event and all ages are welcome! Refreshments and Snacks will be available for purchase.

Harmony Science Academy - Pflugerville is located at 1421 Wells Branch Pkwy Suite #200, Pflugerville, TX 78660. We are an open-enrollment public charter school that focuses on science, technology, engineering, and math. For more information, please visit us at [hsana.org](http://hsana.org) or call (512) 251-5000 to set-up a school tour.

## Teach Your Children Well About Finances and Investing

by Nicole Viator, Edward Jones Financial Advisor

High debt levels, lack of savings and an inability to budget are problems that affect many of us. But you may be able to help your children avoid these challenges by giving them some financial education. First, encourage them to save part of any money they receive for something they want to buy, such as a toy or video game. And, model the right behavior by talking about how you are putting money away for a major purchase, if indeed you are saving for one.

Next, talk about the importance of establishing a budget and sticking to it. Explain to your children where your money comes from, how you spend it, and how, by staying within a budget, you can avoid problems such as heavy debt loads.

Finally, make investing fun. Have your children pick a company that makes a product they like and follow this company's performance. You might even give your children a pretend amount to invest and track the value of their investment. By making investing an enjoyable and exciting activity, you can encourage your kids to become lifetime investors.

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### Inherit Real Estate? What is a Probate Time Line?

As the Executor or Administrator you may  
have to decide what to do with the real estate.



- Sell the property or keep it as a rental?
- Spend money to fix up or sell as is?
- Market Study to know property value?
- Garage Sale or hire professional Estate Sale service?

Request a no-hassle **FREE COPY** of my "**The Probate  
Timeline**" - Listed by item with when each should happen  
from "Prepare and File Petition for Probate" to "Final  
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## School Transfer Requests by Emily Berver

Both RRISD & PfISD are accepting applications for school transfers. Transfer requests can be completed online or through the administration building. If you are interested in a school transfer, it is best to submit your application ASAP, since spaces may be limited.

For RRISD, our two neighborhood elementary schools are both Public Schools of Choice and are open to enrollment for any RRISD student that is interested in the content area. RRISD is also accepting out-of-district transfers this year, which is an option for parents that are interested in considering Wells Branch Arts Integration Academy or Joe Lee Johnson STEAM Academy, but don't live within RRISD.

Our neighborhood has been affected by the boundary changes for RRISD middle schools, but both Chisholm Trail and Deerpark are accepting transfer students. All high schools except Round Rock High are open for transfers.

For more information and the online applications for RRISD, please visit <https://roundrockisd.org/parents/student-transfers/>

Pflugerville ISD is also accepting transfer requests for in-district students until 5pm on March 31<sup>st</sup>. All campuses except Highland Park Elementary that are north of Wells Branch Parkway and west of FM 685 are accepting transfers. For more information and online application for PfISD, please visit <http://www.pfisd.net/Page/553>

## Hoopla! FREE Instant Movie, Album & Audiobook Access

By Jeremy Selvidge, Managing Technology and Outreach Librarian

Love streaming music and movies? The Wells Branch Community Library is excited to provide instant access to thousands of movies, albums, audiobooks, and more, for free, with **hoopla digital**.

Library card holders can download the free hoopla digital app on your Android or iOS device or visit [hoopladigital.com](http://hoopladigital.com) to create an account. Once you've registered, you can borrow and enjoy thousands of titles available for instant streaming or temporary download to your tablet or smartphone. Check out up to five free titles each month with your Wells Branch library card!

With its simple sign-up and easy-to-use interface, it's easy to get started with hoopla. And with all titles instantly available, there are no holds lists or waiting to borrow popular movies, TV shows, albums, or audiobooks. At the end of your loan period, items are automatically returned—meaning no late fees or overdues!

In addition to hoopla, the Wells Branch Community Library provides online access to e-books and e-audiobooks through OverDrive, digital magazines through Flipster, and a number of research databases. Visit our website [wblibrary.org](http://wblibrary.org) or stop by the library to learn more about these valuable services!





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

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## Not sure what to do with the kids this summer?

Wells Branch MUD offers a wide variety of Summer Camps. Visit their website at [wellsbranchmud.com](http://wellsbranchmud.com) to learn more about: **Stuff-2-Do**



**Summer Day Camp, Volleyball Clinics, Basketball Clinics, Art Mini-Camps and Swim Lessons.** Don't wait! Registration starts early and fills fast! Questions? Call 512-251-9814.

### Stuff-2-Do Summer Day Camps

Wells Branch MUD will again offer its Stuff-2-Do Summer Day Camp in weekly sessions in 2017 for children K-5th grades. Registration for In-District Wells Branch residents with Rec. Tags will begin Monday, April 17, 6am-10pm. Registration for In-District WB residents with or without Rec. Tags and Out-of-District residents WITH Rec. Tags begins Monday, April 24, 6am-10pm, and open enrollment for all others, with or without tags, begins Thursday, April 27, 6am-10pm. Registration continues until the camps are full. Register at the Recreation Center, 3000 Shoreline. The age-appropriate camp will be determined by the grade your child just completed. **Check [wellsbranchmud.com](http://wellsbranchmud.com) for more information, theme weeks and dates.** Call 512-251-9814.

### Summer Art Enrichment Mini-camps by Dianne Koehler

Want to bring out the creative side of your child this summer right here in Wells Branch? Join us for the art mini-camp program sponsored by the WB MUD (a portion of the tuition supports programs in WB). We pack lots of projects into each week of three half-day sessions and each week has its own theme. Enroll for one or several. Camp is \$45 per 3-day session. For weekly themes and to register, visit 3000 Shoreline Dr., call 512-251-9814 or online via [wellsbranchmud.com](http://wellsbranchmud.com).

#### Classes will be offered for two age groups:

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

**Junior Artist Sessions** (age 7 1/2 or completed 1st grade-age 12) Hours: 12-3:30pm Tu-W-Th

All summer camp sessions will be held at the MUD Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive except Pioneer Week, June 20-22 at WB Homestead on Klattenhoff Drive.

For more information, email [dianne.koehler51@gmail.com](mailto:dianne.koehler51@gmail.com) or <https://sites.google.com/site/woodenitbewonderful/dikoe-hler-home/art-mini-camps-2017>

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## Free Property Tax Seminar

Sunday, April 23 • 4:00 - 5:30pm

Wells Branch Community Center, 2106 Klattenhoff Drive

Join Bruce Elfant, Travis County Tax Assessor-Collector and Chief Appraiser, Marya Crigler, for an informative session on protesting your home's appraised value to reduce your annual property taxes. This event will cover a variety of helpful topics from filing your exemption forms to understanding how properties are appraised to completing an informal/formal protest. Home values are expected to substantially increase again this year so don't miss this invaluable information that could save you hundreds of dollars!

This free event is brought to you by local Wells Branch Realtor, Tammy DeWitt Le. There is limited space so please register for the event by visiting "Wells Branch Real Estate" on Facebook. Reminders will also be sent via the WB Google Group.

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

The DIY Club meets on the first Sunday of each month, unless otherwise noted, from 6-8pm in room #103 of the Rec. Center on Shoreline. The meetings are open to anyone and are free. Our February meeting focused on simple improvements to increase home security. In March, we covered "How to Cut the Cable". Both meetings were live-streamed by the WBNA and are available for viewing on their Facebook page under 'Videos' if you'd like to catch up.

April 2, we'll cover "Roofing, Insulation, Ducts" and May 7, will feature "Interior and Exterior Lighting". We hope you'll join us!

## Silver Branchers By Darlene Bauhs

The Silver Branchers meet each Thursday from 1-3pm at the WB Rec. Center on Shoreline Drive. We are an active group of seniors who gather for an afternoon of fun and laughter each week. We play many games and enjoy each other's company. All residents 55 years and older are welcome. We hope you'll join us.

We plan monthly day trips during the cooler months and will visit the Hornsby Bend Bird Sanctuary in Del Valle on April 20. Please call 512-251-9814 for departure details, and to reserve your spot. Day trips will resume in September.



Our recent trip to Waco.

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## FOL Adult Ed Program: Financial Foundational Series

by Margaret McGhee-Sufke

The Friends of the Library is working with a variety of professionals to host a Financial Foundational Series. The intent of the program is to host a series of topics that provide the educational building blocks for each of the key financial planning components.

There is NO cost for this series and nothing will be sold during the classes. All you have to invest is a little bit of your time for a better understanding of how the individual financial components work together to create a successful long term financial plan.

On February 23, the FOL kicked off the first session in the series on Social Security. The guest speaker, Mr. Philip D. Capriotti, Sr. led a lively presentation on how the system works, focusing on how the recent changes in the law will impact those thinking about applying for their payout shortly. The information provided was an eye-opening experience.

Please look for additional information on the FOL and WBNA websites and Facebook pages, as well as updates on the WB Neighborhood Google group. The next three sessions will be held at the WB Community Center, 2106 Klattenhoff Drive, from 6:30-8:00pm.

### Upcoming topics include:

**Session 2 (March 30):** How to maximize your 401k, pensions, and IRAs benefits

- How the benefits and payouts work in tandem to maximize your Social Security benefits
- How to avoid making poor choices early in the game that impact the overall payout
- Maximize lifetime benefits through longer term strategies
- Alternate plans if you have limited resources
- All attendees will be able to sign up for a FREE 2 hour customized planning session with the team from Senior Tax & Insurance Advisors

**Session 3 (April 13):** Insurance as a Financial Resource: there's more to insurance than you think

**Session 4 (May TBD):** General Financial Planning Topics (Tools, Tips, and Resources)

**Session 5 (June 8):** Family Law/Estate Planning (what to do when and why, what happens if you don't)

**Session 6 (TBD):** General Tax/IRS Strategies (property tax topics, managing deductions & more)

**Session 7 (TBD):** Manage Your Information/Protect Your Identity (protect what you've worked hard to establish)

## Birding in Wells Branch

by Wanda Holcombe

Hosted Bird Walks are held on the 2nd Monday & 3rd Saturday of each month at 8:00 am (weather permitting). Gather at the Mills Pond Gazebo off Wells Port Drive. Check the WBNA Calendar for any updates or changes

While you're out enjoying this mild spring weather, be sure and visit the Nature Viewing Station near the parking lot at Mills Pond. Not too far past the NVS, you'll find the Purple Martin Houses in the North Meadow. Email Karen Hagemann at the address below if you'd like to join the caretaking team.

## Grow These Native Plants So Your Backyard Birds Can Feast

(Source: Portion of Article by Zach Slavin in the National Audubon Newsletter from February 10, 2017)

Native plants beat even the best bird feeder. Find out what to put in your garden to transform it into a year-round wonderland. Birds and native plants are made for each other, thanks to millions of years of evolution. Large, colorful fruits feed birds and, in return, birds spread the plant's seeds far and wide, supporting whole ecosystems. Native plants are also important hosts for protein-rich native insects like butterfly and moth caterpillars, which nesting birds need to feed their growing chicks. For their part, birds have shaped their entire life cycles, including their migrations and feeding habits, around plant communities and the seasonal fruits and insects they serve up. Download a complete Planting List at [wbna.us/community/birding-in-wells-branch/](http://wbna.us/community/birding-in-wells-branch/).

### Happy Birding...

Sharon Richardson | [sharonorichardson@gmail.com](mailto:sharonorichardson@gmail.com)

Heather Johnson | [frioswimmer@gmail.com](mailto:frioswimmer@gmail.com)

Karen Hagemann | [khallhagemann@hotmail.com](mailto:khallhagemann@hotmail.com)

Wanda Holcombe | [wandah70@gmail.com](mailto:wandah70@gmail.com)

Wadehra Paul | [paul.wadehra@gmail.com](mailto:paul.wadehra@gmail.com)

## Let the Contest Begin - FOL 2018 Calendar Contest Underway!

by Tracy Simon, President, Friends of WB Community Library

Calling all photographers; amateur to professional, the Friends of the WB Library is holding its second annual contest searching for the 16 photos to grace our 2018 calendar. Your photo could be a WINNER!!

Photos of idyllic views, people, activities and events, whatever you think best applies to the theme "Best of Wells Branch" to be included in our 15 month calendar for 2018. See the rules at [wbfriends.org](http://wbfriends.org) and <https://www.facebook.com/WBFOL/>; contest ends June 15, 2017.

## Support for Popular Soccer Coach Fighting Cancer

The Wells Branch Soccer Association will be selling concessions at Pioneer Fest, April 1, noon-5pm. **100% of WBSA concession proceeds will benefit Coach Freddie's GoFundMe campaign as he fights renal cancer.** Please join WBSA in offering support to this well loved coach and his family. For more info, visit: <https://www.gofundme.com/rvj2v-help-the-jones-family>



Please consider lending a hand using the link above, pass this along to other soccer and WB families, and email [president@wellsbranchsoccer.com](mailto:president@wellsbranchsoccer.com) any ideas for providing support. To sign up to volunteer for one-hour shifts, visit: <https://signup.com/group/715307402052>. Thank you!

## Wells Branch Cultural Diversity Fair

by Marisa Sawatphadungkij and Heather Johnson, Co-Chairs

### Bring your culture to our neighborhood!

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



**Next Planning Meeting: Sunday, April 9, 4pm at WB Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive**

**Current List of Countries Represented:** Palestine, Argentina, Germany, Thailand, Guatemala\*, Philippines\*, France\*, England\*, Columbia\*, Morocco\*, Syria\*, Myanmar/Burma\*, India\*, Hungary\*, Slovakia\*

\* = not confirmed

For more information, please visit our page at [wbna.us/community/wb-cultural-diversity-fair](http://wbna.us/community/wb-cultural-diversity-fair).

## FREE Arts & Crafts Classes, Wednesdays at the Library

by Dianne Koehler

**Pick up your tickets at the kids' desk beginning at 5:30pm. Ages 8+ or with an adult. Fun for all!**

For children and their families or persons who just want to do the craft. We create our masterpieces using donated supplies, things we can recycle, stuff we can make and more. Class begins at 6:00pm; tickets available at 5:30pm. To learn more about these classes please visit:

<http://wonderfulartsn Crafts.blogspot.com/>

- March 29 • Wildflower Painting
- April 5 • Flamingos
- April 12 • Easter Bunnies
- April 19 • Trash People/Critters
- April 26 • Fingerprint Blooming Tree
- May 3 • Cinco de Mayo Piñatas
- May 10 • Make a Mother's Day Card
- May 17 • Clay Critters
- May 24 • Draw Dinosaurs

## Volunteers Make a Big Impact at the Park

by Brian Litke

More than 30 volunteers helped out at **It's My Park Day** in Wells Branch this year, staffing projects in KF Park and at the WB Disc Golf course. Although rain threatened, it was clear during the project, and we finished our plantings just in time for the rain to come and keep the new grasses and trees well-watered. Thank you to the families, members of Cub Scout Pack 728, board members Janet Maxey and Shelley Palmer, members of the WB Disc Golf Club, and thank you to the WB MUD for purchasing the inland seat oat grasses and the WB Disc Golf Club for purchasing the trees planted during the workday.

Volunteers planted 46 inland sea oats along the steep creek-bed rear the low-water crossing at the WB maintenance area to prevent soil loss. We have seen that similar plantings that were added to the butterfly garden over the past few years have given that creek bank new life, and the seeds from the mature plants are seeding themselves down the sides of the bank. We hope the added plantings will also spread themselves along this steep area of the creek. It's a positive impact for the creek and it makes the area look great.

We also planted three desert willow trees (popular with butterflies), a Mexican plum tree, and two Monterrey oak trees. These drought-tolerant trees will provide new life to the greenbelt and help maintain the tree population as we lose trees each year to drought or old age.

Thanks again to everyone involved, the Austin Parks Foundation and sponsors Wheatville COOP and KIND bars. The next volunteer day for It's My Park Day will be this fall, but I hope you'll also come out to the monthly Keep Wells Branch Beautiful events. They're a great way to spend some time outdoors and show your community spirit.

Check out our photos from It's My Park Day on the WBNA Facebook page.

## Wells Branch Garden Guild

by Dianne Koehler

Our friendly group of garden enthusiasts meet once a month, normally every third Saturday at 10:30am for a plant/seed swap followed by a presentation. We meet at the WB Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive. All are welcome!

**April 22:** Field Trip to Gabriel Valley Farms in Georgetown, producers of certified organic culinary herbs and vegetable plants. Bring your questions and \$\$\$. We will carpool so check our Facebook page and Google Group for updates.

**May 20:** The annual WB Garden Tour. Join us and get inspired by the wonderful gardens hiding behind your neighbor's fences and learn what those beautiful plants are in the front yard down the street. The coordinator again this year is Susan Gillespie; contact her at [susangillespie4@gmail.com](mailto:susangillespie4@gmail.com) if you'd like your garden included in the tour.

**June 10:** Tomato Tasting on the second Saturday. Come see what WB gardens can produce and talk to the folks that grow these tasty tomatoes. Last summer we had 8-9 varieties and other veggies as well as a couple of home made cheeses.



*The WBNA has requested articles from area places of worship outlining their beliefs and involvement in the community. We hope to feature several over the next few months. As with any of our articles, publication is not endorsement. We welcome input and interaction from all faiths. If you'd like to feature a place of worship which serves the Wells Branch area, please contact us at [info@wbna.us](mailto:info@wbna.us). Deadline for the next issue is May 5.*



by Chris Plekenpol, Lead Pastor

Hey Wells Branch, my name is Chris Plekenpol and I am the lead pastor at Wells Branch Community Church. I have had the privilege to serve as pastor here for 5 years now. I live in the neighborhood and absolutely love it here. Now in the past five years, WBCC has grown a lot! So much so that we're able to plant our own church. We sent a core team down to East Austin to live in the community to love that community. Eastside Community Church is going to reproduce in East Austin what WBCC has here.

There are several things that we feel are unique to Wells Branch that we are hoping that ECC and other churches throughout Austin embody.

First, we are in the community, for the community. I know that sounds redundant, but we are hyper intentional about serving our neighbors in Wells Branch. Whether that is through our state licensed counselor on staff here to meet the mental health needs of the community, financially serving some of our disadvantaged neighbors, providing volunteers for the Literacy Partner program at Joe Lee Johnson Elementary School, chartering Cub Scout Pack 728, or serving the WB MUD and local elementary schools in any way possible. We take the great Commandment to love God and to love our neighbor very seriously. We seek to serve our community.

Second, we are a family of believers committed to reaching people with the life changing reality of Jesus Christ. We wholeheartedly believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for the sins of the world and rose from the dead about 2000 years ago. We believe that Jesus' victory over sin and death energized us to live for more than what this world has to offer. Easter Sunday, April 16 at 9:00am and 10:45am (or any Sunday) at the WB Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline Dr., we will celebrate that victory. We invite all of Wells Branch to join us.

Third, we don't promise to be perfect, but we do promise to be real about our faith and what God is calling us to be and do in this community. We love people. We love conversations, dialogue, and we aren't afraid of questions about any topic.

Come check us out Sunday or on our website at [WellsBranchChurch.com](http://WellsBranchChurch.com)

# KUDOS!

You guys are incredible! Thank you for taking time out of your weekend to volunteer and for the extra time spent inserting membership envelopes in the newsletters! Your efforts in helping build and maintain our community spirit are very much appreciated! Special THANKS to volunteers Amaya Rodriguez and Janet Maxey for the time spent putting address labels on 3500 envelopes!

**June Apprill · Dan Barnekow · Anne, Winston, Brady & Colton Bennett · Emily Berver · Gail Bloch · Tineke Blythe · Kathy Brown · Karen Buerkle · Garland Bullock · Creola Burns · Chris & Alex Connell · Raja, Theresa, Ryan & Alex Faris · Delian Filip · Michelle Gadush · Miriam, Melissa & Briana Garate · Amy Gardner · Carla & Alexander Gordon · Cynthia Hannon · Max & Grant Hatfield · Travers Hough · Bruce Jones\* · Jennifer Jones · Gus Kohn\* · Kim Lanicek · Sherrie Lindig · Brian Litke · Angel Lugo · Siv, Jyoti & Arjuna Manda · Dee Marks\* · Joan & Dave Mead · Gary Mueller · Kelly Page · Arlie Pfeifer · Farah Rhoads · Jessica Ridge · Mark Schneider · Doug Schwartz · Alice Sears · Sonya Shaffer · Jeremy Selvidge · Ralph Simon\* · Gayle & Mona Speranza · Sharon Sproat · DeLane Spriggs · Jeff & Jeannette Stevens · Margaret Sufke · Debby Thompson\* · Jill & J.R. Traffanstedt · Mike Weis · Daniel White\* · Wally Wingfield · Pamela & Bre Woodward**

***\*Delivered more than one section***

If you would like to deliver the newsletter, please contact our distribution team at [info@wbna.us](mailto:info@wbna.us) or 512-656-0654.

## PfCONA PISD School Board Candidate Forum

by Pflugerville Council of Neighborhood Associations

**Wednesday, April 19 • 7:00-9:00pm**

**Pflugerville Public Library • 1008 Pfluger St W, Pflugerville**

PfCONA is hosting a Pflugerville School Board Candidate Forum for the May 6, 2017 election. This is an important school board election for PfISD. The new board will choose the next Superintendent and will decide if the district will become a District of Innovation, impacting both students and teachers. Please come hear the candidates, ask questions, and make informed decisions on the future direction of our public school system.

This is a free event, open to the public. Early voting is from April 24 to May 2.

### **Place 2 – Special Election (1 year unexpired term)**

- 1) **Jacob E. Betz**, [jacobbetz.org](http://jacobbetz.org)
- 2) **Tony Hanson**, [facebook.com/hanson4pfisd](https://facebook.com/hanson4pfisd)
- 3) **Charlie Torres**, [facebook.com/charlie.torres.758](https://facebook.com/charlie.torres.758)

### **Place 6 – General Election (3 year term)**

- 1) **Larry D. Bradley**, [pfisd.net/Page/225](https://pfisd.net/Page/225)
- 2) **Matt Robertson**, [facebook.com/profile.php?id=100011727995460](https://facebook.com/profile.php?id=100011727995460)
- 3) **Cliff Styles**, [facebook.com/cliffon.styles.7](https://facebook.com/cliffon.styles.7)

### **Place 7 – General Election (3 year term)**

- 1) **Rob Reyes**, [facebook.com/rob.campaign](https://facebook.com/rob.campaign)

## Scouting News

### Cub Scout Pack 140 by Tonya Riley

The older Cub Scouts of Pack 140 recently went on a camping adventure in Georgetown as guests of Boy Scout Troop 1409. Our Scouts got the chance to interact with the Boy Scouts and learn more about the differences between Cub Scout and Boy Scout activities. Thank you Troop 1409; our Scouts had a great time! Look for Pack 140 at the upcoming Pioneer Festival. We will demonstrate the toys and games of pioneer times.

Interested in joining Cub Scouts? Go to [pack140.org](http://pack140.org), email [info@pack140.org](mailto:info@pack140.org), or call 512-627-9741.

### Cub Scout Pack 728 News by Shannon Best

It's a busy time of the year for Scouts! Pack 728 has attended Report to State, held its annual Blue and Gold and chipped in on It's My Park Day. The Scouts will camp at Camp Mabry in April.

Pack 728 would like to thank Wells Branch residents Kevin Reese and Brian Litke, Wells Branch Community Church, Pflugerville Fire Dept. and Kardiak Lifesavers for playing a part in helping all Scouts achieve their ranks this year.

Pack 728 meets every Wednesday at the Live For More Center, 14735 Bratton Lane. Contact us at [wbpack728@gmail.com](mailto:wbpack728@gmail.com).





### BSA Troop 1409 by Rich Michelson, Scoutmaster

Interested in Scouting? We always welcome new youth between the ages of 11 to 18! Contact [scoutmaster@troop1409.com](mailto:scoutmaster@troop1409.com) for more information or visit our website at <http://www.troop1409.com/> or our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Troop1409/>

### BSA Venture Crew 1409 by Jill Douglass, Advisor

President's Day weekend, Crew 1409 combined forces with Crew 157 out of Round Rock and conquered the 27 mile Goodwater Loop around Lake Georgetown. This three-day/two-night trek requires the scouts to pack all the food and equipment required for a multi-day trip. It's a great shake-down trek for those who are new to backpacking. Last year we had icy temperatures. This year we had thunderstorms and mud. One tent was set up in a low spot and got partially submerged during the storm. Those scouts now have a keener appreciation for looking for a better tent location. Many of the crew attached hammocks under the campground shelters to stay off the wet ground. Storm preparation and recovery are valuable skills to take into the wilderness.

Venturing is a youth development program of the Boy Scouts of America for young men and women who are 14 – 20 years of age. Contact Jill Douglass (512-293-9022 / [jdouglass@crew1409.com](mailto:jdouglass@crew1409.com)) for questions about the Crew. Visit <http://www.crew1409.com/> to learn more!



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*Putin, Russia, Eastern Europe and Beyond*

**July 13 • 10:30 a.m. • RSVP by July 11**  
*China*






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# Community Calendar

- 3/30, 6:30-8pm: **FOL Financial Planning Seminar**, WBCC
  - 4/1, Noon-5pm: **Pioneer Fest**, WB Homestead
  - 4/2, 6-8pm: **DIY Club-Roofing, Insulation & Ducts**, WBRC
  - 4/8, 8am-5pm: **Extreme Clean Spring**, WBMt, See Pg. 6
  - 4/8, 9am-12pm: **Texas Trash Off & Vol. Day**, WBA
  - 4/8, 2-6pm: **WB Elementary Spring Fest & Silent Auction** •
  - 4/9, 4pm: **Cultural Diversity Planning Meeting**, WBRC
  - 4/13, 6:30-8:00pm: **FOL Financial Seminar**, WBCC
  - 4/15, 10:30am: **WBNA Easter Egg Hunt**, WB Homestead
  - 4/17, 6am-10pm: **Stuff-2-Do Camp Registration Begins**,  
**In-District w/Rec Tag**
  - 4/19, 7-9pm: **PfISD School Board Candidate Forum**, See Pg. 18
  - 4/20, 7-9pm: **Travis County Bike & Trail Planning**, See  
WBNA.us for details
  - 4/22: **WB Garden Guild Outing**, See FB for details
  - 4/22, 4-6pm: **Northwest Elementary 30th Anniversary**
  - 4/23, 4:00-5:30pm: **FREE Tax Appr. Protest Seminar**, WBCC
  - 4/24, 6am-10pm: **Stuff-2-Do Camp Registration**, In-District  
**w/o Rec Tag, Out of District w/ Rec Tag**
  - 4/27, 6am-10pm: **Stuff-2-Do Camp Open Registration**
  - 4/27: **Armada New Parent Orientation**
  - 5/1: **Armada - First Day of Swim Practice**
  - 5/6, 9am-noon: **Spring Youth Fishing Tournament**, Mills Pond
  - 5/7, 6-8pm: **DIY Club-Int. & Ext. Lighting**, WBRC
  - 5/7, 2-4pm: **KWBB Volunteer Day**, TBA
  - 5/13: **Bulk Trash Day** for In-District MUD Residents, WBMtc
  - 5/13, 9am-1:30pm: **Disc Golf Tournament** (WB MUD),  
WB Disc Golf Course on Owen Tech
  - 5/20: **WB Garden Tour**, WBRC, See wbna.us for map
  - 5/20, Noon-6pm: **Deutschen Fest**, Pfluger Park
  - 5/27, 6-9pm: **Memorial Day Casino Night**, WBRC
  - 5/28, Noon-4pm: **Splash Day**, KF Pool
  - 5/29: **Memorial Day** - PfISD & RRISD - No School
- See recurring events at WBNA.us**

## 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  
**WBA**=MUD Annex 14611 Wells Port

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- ◆ 60 Wells Branch homes sales since 2003
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\*Based on Tammy's Wells Branch sales from 2012—2016



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## 5th Annual Disc Golf Tournament

**Saturday, May 13, 2017 • 9am-1:30pm**

**WB Disc Golf Course on Owen Tech**

Calling Wells Branch residents to participate in the 5th Annual WB Disc Golf Tournament on Saturday, May 13. Registration is from 9-10am and the awards ceremony will be held at 1:30pm after the final group has finished.

Each participant will receive a disc golf disc with custom artwork as part of their registration (\$10 Pre-registration or \$15 On-site). There will be door prizes from local businesses awarded at signup, and the Wells Branch Disc Golf Club is donating prizes for the winners of each division. One lucky door prize winner will bring home a portable disc golf basket!

Pre-registration is only \$10 and will be taken at the WB Recreation Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive. You may also call to register at 512-251-9814 or email your registration request to [rec@wellsbranchmud.com](mailto:rec@wellsbranchmud.com). On-site registration is \$15.

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

## Support your Neighborhood Association

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

March 2017

Here is my check (made out to WBNA) for \$20 annual dues for 2017

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