

# News and information for the residents of Wells Branch. Vol. 23. Issue 5. Fall 2015

# National Night Out America's Night Out Against Crime Free Food • Great Company • Door Prizes!



Join your Wells Branch neighbors for our night out against crime, **Tuesday**, **October 6, from 6:00-9:00pm** at the gazebo at Katherine Fleischer Park. The WBNA will be serving up FREE hotdogs,

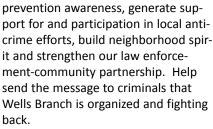
sausage wraps, fruit & veggies, beans, hummus, sodas and chips. For dessert, we'll have the Friends of the Library handing out Culver's delicious frozen custard (while supplies last). And don't forget the door prizes!

Distinguished guests from the Travis County Sheriff's Office, ESD No. 2 Fire Dept., Precinct 2 Constable's Office and our State House Dist. 50 Representative, Celia Israel, will be on hand to visit with residents and answer questions. Both children and adults will have the opportunity to talk with first responders, receive information on Neighborhood Watch and other programs available to residents, and tour the fire safety house and fire truck that ESD No. 2 will have onsite.

Come find out what's going on in our community and discuss with local law enforcement officers and politicians what you can do to help reduce the opportunities for crimes to occur in our neighborhood.

National Night Out's purpose is to heighten crime and drug







Take a stand against crime. Turn on your porch light and come join your friends and neighbors at the park for food and fellowship. If you have a Neighborhood Watch group on your block (or even if you don't) we'd like to encourage you to come eat dinner with us, listen to the speakers, and then return home to your street and gather with your neighbors over dessert to discuss how you can make your homes and our community safer.

We hope to see you there!

## **Construction Updates Coming Soon!**

Many of you have requested information on all of the construction both underway and coming our way. We've created a tab on the WBNA website with pages for each of the projects currently under construction in Wells Branch. There, you'll find maps, site plans, links to the documents filed with the City of Austin and updates. If we're missing a project, email us at



info@wbna.us and we'll do our best to get the information up there for you.

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Support the WBNA See page 24 and join today!



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# Wells Branch Business Spotlight – New Businesses in WB by Gus Kohn

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

Recent additions to our Wells Branch Community:

Kutting Edge Barber & Beauty Salon has opened in Wells Branch Plaza between the UPS Store and Tejas Liquor #3 by Branch BBQ. Manager Lisa says the shop has been open since early July and currently has one barber and two stylists with a color specialist in on Saturdays. Kutting Edge is open 10am-7pm M-F and 9am-7pm Sat. They cater to Men, Women and Children with a variety of services including waxing. Walk-ins are welcome; to avoid wait time, make an appointment at 512-906-2500. Visit their website: kuttingedgebbs.com.

Out of This World Music School has opened their second location in Wells Branch Center between Dr. Edwin Webb and Community Chiropractic (former site of Wells Branch Vision Care). Owners Reema and Michael Garcia welcome you to tour the school and see the inspiring vibe they have created. A locally owned family business, Michael and Reema are passionate about inspiring the next musical generation. Students range in age from 4 to 84 and they teach most stringed instruments as well as keyboards, drums and voice. They are excited about The Musical Theater Vocal Audition classes being held Sundays Oct. 11 to Nov. 8 (5 class sessions) for ages 13+. Sign up now as the class is limited to 8 students! Contact Reema or Michael at 512-851-7437 or outofthisworldmusicschool.com for more information; hours vary so call ahead.

Portobello Brazilian Grill has opened in the Wells Branch Plaza between Express Cut 9 and Papa John's Pizza featuring the Churrasco style of cooking with many types of meats prepared on the grill. Using a pay by weight model, Portobello prepares real, honest food, fresh every day. Come visit and enjoy all of Portobello's variety of meats including the popular Brazilian cut called Picanha. In the U.S. it is little known, but referred to as the rump cap or top sirloin. They feature Brazilian Feijoada, the national dish of Brazil, every Saturday: a black bean stew with pork, dried meat and sausage, served

See WB Businesses on page 10



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# National Fire Prevention Week, October 4-10, 2015 Source: nfpa.org

## Keep your family safe with a working smoke alarm in every bedroom.

Did you know that roughly half of home fire deaths result from fires reported between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., when most people are asleep?

Smoke alarms save lives. If there is a fire in your home, smoke spreads fast and you need smoke alarms to give you time to get out. In fact, having a working smoke alarm cuts the chances of dying in a reported fire in half!

## When it comes to smoke alarms, it's about "location, location, location".

- The key message of this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, October 4-10, is to install smoke alarms in every bedrom, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of your home, including the basement. Larger homes may need more alarms.
- Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home.
   When one sounds, they all sound.
- An ionization smoke alarm is generally more responsive to flaming fires, and a photoelectric smoke alarm is generally more responsive to smoldering fires. For the best protection, both types of alarms or a combination alarm (photoelectric and ionization) should be installed in homes.
- Smoke rises; install smoke alarms following manufacturer's instructions high on a wall or on a ceiling. Save manufacturer's instructions for testing and maintenance.
- Test alarms at least monthly by pushing the test button.
- Replace batteries in all smoke alarms at least once a year.
   If an alarm "chirps", warning the battery is low, replace
   the battery right away. Daylight Saving Time provides a
   convenient reminder to change the batteries when you
   set your clocks back.

Replace all smoke alarms, including alarms that use 10-year batteries and hard-wired alarms, when they are 10 years old or sooner if they do not respond properly.

NFPA is excited to share this important information so everyone better understands the life-saving value of home smoke alarms. Visit firepreventionweek.org for family safety tips and educational resources.



NOVEMBER 1 - Time to "Fall Back"
Daylight Saving Time comes to a close
on Sunday, November 1 at 2am. Don't
forget to turn your clocks back an hour
before bed on Halloween night!

## 21 yr WB resident & community volunteer

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





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## **Travis County Bond Proposition**

On August 18, 2015, the Commissioners Court unanimously approved calling an election November 3, 2015, for civil and family courts facilities. The \$287,275,000 proposition is to fund the Civil and Family Courts Complex. Here is a link to an estimator so that you may calculate the financial impact of the bond: https://www.traviscountytx.gov/planning-budget/bond-estimator

The results of the estimator are for informational purposes only. It is intended to estimate the property tax increase associated with the approval of the proposed 2015 bond proposition. The values used in the estimator appreciate current year assessed values by 10%, because that is the maximum allowed in the state of Texas for properties with a homestead exemption. The actual impact will vary depending on the taxable value, types of exemptions, and appreciation from January 1, 2015 to January 1, 2016.

The Current Assessed Value can be found by searching for your property at traviscad.org and navigating to the bottom of the values section.

Current Homestead Exemption reduces taxable value by 20%.

65 and Older or Disabled Homestead Exemption further reduces taxable value by \$75,000.

The forms for these or other exemptions can be found at traviscad.org as well.

\*Please note that the estimated increase in tax calculated above is a result only of the proposed 2015 Bond Election. It does NOT include any changes in property tax due to previously issued debt, nor does it include tax impacts from any other taxing entities such as the school districts, municipalities or special districts.

Visit the link below for a very informative piece from the Austin Chronicle: http://www.austinchronicle.com/news/2015-09-18/to-build-a-courthouse/

# Wells Branch VOTES November 3, 2015 Constitutional Amendment Election

This election season, Wells Branch residents will be voting on the following Constitutional Amendments as well as a Travis County Bond Proposition.

Below, please find a list of the Amendments as they will appear on your ballot in November. As always, the WBNA encourages everyone to research issues and make an informed decision. Guides were not yet available at the time of publication; however, The League of Women Voters publishes an impartial guide prior to each election at http://lwvaustin.org/voter-guide/

#### Proposition 1 - SJR 1

"The constitutional amendment increasing the amount of the residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation for public school purposes from \$15,000 to \$25,000, providing for a reduction of the limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed for those purposes on the homestead of an elderly or disabled person to reflect the increased exemption amount, authorizing the legislature to prohibit a political subdivision that has adopted an optional residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation from reducing the amount of or repealing the exemption, and prohibiting the enactment of a law that imposes a transfer tax on a transaction that conveys fee simple title to real property."

#### Proposition 2 - HJR 75

"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a 100 percent or totally disabled veteran who died before the law authorizing a residence homestead exemption for such a veteran took effect."

#### Proposition 3 - SJR 52

"The constitutional amendment repealing the requirement that state officers elected by voters statewide reside in the state capital."

### Proposition 4 – HJR 73

"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit professional sports team charitable foundations to conduct charitable raffles."

#### Proposition 5 - SJR 17

"The constitutional amendment to authorize counties with a population of 7,500 or less to perform private road construction and maintenance."

## Proposition 6 – SJR 22

"The constitutional amendment recognizing the right of the people to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife subject to laws that promote wild-life conservation."

## Proposition 7 - SJR 5

"The constitutional amendment dedicating certain sales and use tax revenue and motor vehicle sales, use, and rental tax revenue to the state highway fund to provide funding for nontolled roads and the reduction of certain transportation-related debt."

http://www.votetexas.gov/november-3-2015-constitutional-amend-ment-election-ballot-language/

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I went over these recommendations with my children as soon as there were old enough to ride with friends and long before they could drive, with frequent reminders over the years. Please review and share with our teens in particular. - Debby Thompson

## **Traffic Stop Safety Tips**

#### **All Traffic Stops Are Dangerous:**

Each year many officers are killed and thousands more are injured while performing traffic related duties. Every stop, even the most common traffic violation, has the potential for danger.

There is no such thing as a "routine traffic stop". During traffic stops an officer can come across uninsured drivers, drivers with suspended/revoked driver's licenses, drivers impaired by alcohol and/or drugs, people in possession of illegal firearms and drugs, and drivers and passengers with arrest warrants. These are just a few of the reasons why officers are trained to place a great deal of emphasis on their safety and take a defensive posture at a stop until the risk of confrontation or injury is diminished.

## What Can You Do if You Are Stopped?

- If you are stopped by a police officer, here are some guidelines that both drivers and passengers can follow to help reduce the risk the danger to the officer and get you back on your way.
- When being signaled by a police officer to stop, look for the nearest place to position your vehicle as far out of the lane of traffic as possible. Generally you should always pull to the right side of the roadway or to where the shoulder is wider, unless otherwise directed. Be sure to signal your move to the side of the roadway by using your turn signal.
- Keep your hands in view, preferably on the steering wheel.

- After you stop, stay in your vehicle and keep your seat belt fastened until the officer has seen you wearing it. If you are asked to exit the vehicle, do it slowly.
- Always carry proper identification: a valid driver's license, proof of vehicle registration and current proof of insurance.
- Roll down your window all the way, so the officer can communicate with you.
- Remain calm, and please stop using your cell phone and/or turn down your vehicle's radio so that the officer can speak with you. If there are passengers, also ask them to remain quiet and cooperative with all reasonable requests. Do not let anyone in your vehicle make threatening statements or gestures to the officers.
- Please understand that there are times when officers have to speak loudly because they are near traffic and other noisy conditions. The officers are not yelling at you or trying to intimidate you.
- If it is dark out, you can turn on the interior lights of your vehicle when the stop occurs and before the officer reaches your vehicle so that the officer can easily see that all is in order.
- You should understand that most officers will use a patrol car's headlights and spotlights during darkness for safety purposes. It helps illuminate the interior of your car.

See Traffic Stop on page 6



## **Recycling in Wells Branch**

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

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

Clip & Save Recycling Calendar
October 2015

S	М	T	W	Т	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	

#### November 2015

S	М	Т	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					

## New "No Parking" Signs on Sauls

Additional "No Parking" signs have been added on Sauls Dr. near the entrance to Willow Bend Pool. In the past, residents have parked right up to the driveway along Sauls during events; this made it difficult for those exiting to see oncoming traffic without pulling out into the intersection and putting themselves in harm's way. The WBNA would like to thank Deputy Robert Phillips with TCSO for looking out for the safety of our neighbors by having these signs installed.



As a reminder, please do not park within 50ft. of entrances/exits to the Rec. Center parking lot, within 20ft of the driveway to the fire station at Shoreline/Bratton, 20ft of a crosswalk at an intersection, 30ft from stop signs or 15ft from fire hydrants. Parking next to a crosswalk reduces visibility for both the pedestrian and driver. Let's keep Wells Branch safe!

Traffic Stop from page 5

- Ask your passengers to place their hands in plain view such as on their laps.
- Do not duck down or make sudden movements, especially toward the floorboard, rear seat, or passenger side of the vehicle. The officer may interpret these movements as an attempt to hide illegal items or to obtain a weapon.
- Do not immediately reach into your glove box, console pocket, or backseat. Wait for the officer to request your license, registration and proof of insurance. If the documents are out of reach, tell the officer where they are and reach for them slowly. Otherwise, keep your hands on the steering wheel.
- Give the officer a chance to explain the violation. Most officers are trained to ask for identification and registration first before providing an explanation of the stop. This is to avoid debating the reason for the stop prior to acquiring this necessary information.
- Answer all questions honestly. Information pertaining to prior arrests or traffic violations is easily verified via the police dispatcher
- If the charge or citation is not clear, ask for an explanation in a respectful manner.
- Don't be alarmed if another police officer arrives at the stop. Police officers often stop to see if the officer needs any assistance during a traffic stop.
- There is no need to make repeated apologies or to elaborate on the offense. Simply be civil and polite. If there are any special circumstances surrounding the incident, provide a straight, honest and up-front explanation.
- Avoid provoking the officer or showing off in front of other occupants. Do not interfere with the questioning or the arresting of other occupants. Comply with the officer first and then, if needed, seek an explanation.
- Do not argue with the officer at the roadside. If you disagree with the citation or the officer's actions, discuss it later with the law enforcement agency, an attorney, or the judge.

Source: University of Alaska Anchorage, UPD http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/upd/upd-traffic-stop-safety-tips.cfm

# Raccoons & 'Possums & Rats, Oh My! Fall Clean-Up Time is Here



by Debby Thompson, WBNA President

Chances are if you're reading this, you've had a problem with at least one of these critters in the last few months.

Rats contaminate food, damage and destroy property, and spread disease.

Raccoons are destructive and possums can be a nuisance. All have been seen in Wells Branch recently.

The best form of control for any of these animals is an integrated plan that removes access to shelter, food and water. If you have a rat or mouse problem, then the use of rodenticides or traps may be necessary as well. Every resident in Wells Branch can take steps to minimize appeal to these animals.

- Do NOT leave food outside for your pets. If your animals eat outside, give them a chance to eat and then bring the food and water bowls inside.
- · Secure all doggie-doors at night.
- If you have a bird or squirrel feeder, bring it in at night.
   Empty the birdbaths as well.
- Seal all openings into your home and any outdoor storage units using hardware cloth and steel wool. Mice can squeeze into a ¼" opening and it only takes ½" for a rat to gain access.
- Clean out any debris that might provide refuge for these animals.

Fall is the time when varmints start looking for a nice winter home. Old appliances, stacks of lumber, uncut brush and grass, old decking and hot tubs, etc. provide the perfect winter shelter. Now that the weather is starting to cool off, take a weekend to make sure your home and yard are protected.

If you have a neighbor who needs a little help getting his yard in shape, offer to lend a hand. Or better yet, organize a block clean-up party for one weekend. One of the neighborhood watch groups does this twice a year (spring and fall). All the neighbors gather early one morning, pool their tools and go house to house to help each other take care of large outdoor projects and get the yards ready for the next season. They finish the day with a cookout at a neighbor's house. It's an opportunity to bring everyone together and the whole neighborhood benefits from a pest-free environment.

Travis County discourages the trapping and relocation of healthy raccoons and possums. They recommend the aforementioned preventive measures instead. They will, however, come out if you have an animal "trapped" inside a living area. Should this happen, call 311 and ask for Travis County Animal Control.

For poison free remedies and information on rodent bait and trapping tips, visit http://wbna.us/community/rodent-control/





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## Friends of the Library News by Gus Kohn

Ms. Kristin, Children's Librarian, will be hosting an activity for kids at National Night Out as our first official event of Fall. Visit the FOL table on October 6th, from 6-9pm at the Gazebo in KF Park. FOL members will hand out coupons from Culver's as well as scoops of Culver's delicious frozen custard generously donated by Culver's and the WBNA (while supplies last).

We're excited to bring the following programs to Wells Branch! The Friends of the Wells Branch Community Library present "An Introduction To A Heart Healthy Plant-Based Diet" by Vicky Linsalata and "How To Pack A Zero-Waste Healthy Lunch For You And Your Kids" with Tara Fisher-Munoz in one fun-filled educational afternoon to be held October 11th from 3:00 to 4:30pm at WBCL.

Vicky is an RN with over thirty years of experience as a cardiac nurse. She switched to a plant-based diet to improve her heart health and would like to share the benefits of this diet with you, discussing Myths and Tips, Recipes and Resources. Tara will speak about how to pack a healthy and delicious lunch that your kids will actually enjoy that has very little impact on our environment. Recipes and resources included!

The FOL will also feature a succession of seminars on home maintenance from neighbor and veteran handyman Daniel White: "What You Don't Know About Your Home". Learn about how to make repairs, prepare for both winter and summer and many money saving tips. The first presentation will be Sunday October 18th from 6:00 to 7:00pm with three other talks on Sundays: November 1, 15 & 29 at the same time at Wells Branch Community Library.

Please join the Friends for these interesting and informative meetings.

## Meet the Author-Renee Sendelbach



First diagnosed with Stage 1 breast cancer at the young age of 30 when her son was only 13 months old, Wells Branch neighbor, Renee Sendelbach, has been through more in 6 years than most go through in a life time. Countless chemotherapies, breast and brain radiation, three brain surgeries and so much more, Renee writes from her heart about her highest ups and lowest lows in a refresh-

ingly honest voice. There is no sugarcoating the hardships here, but there is a hope that can be found throughout all of her struggles.

She writes like she is sitting with you telling you the story with all the witty lines she says in her day-to-day life. This book isn't just for others with breast cancer. This book is for all who hold onto hope at every turn in life.

Please join Renee for a book signing party on October 18th, from 2-4pm at the Wells Branch Community Center, 2106 Klattenhoff Drive.

Visit Renee's blog at http://reneesendelbach.blogspot.com/



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Banned Books Week – 9/27-10/3/2015: Vote for your favorite banned book that's been made into a film.

Watch the Winner - 10/2 at 6:30pm.

**World Space Week** – 10/4-10/10/15: Space themed crafts and programs all week.



Mobile Planetarium - 10/9 at 6:30: Seating for each show is limited, see the website for a detailed schedule.

Home (PG) – 10/10 at 2pm: Free movie for families!

Abbott & Costello Meet Frankenstein – 10/16 at 6:30pm: Classic Halloween hilarity for all ages. Check commonsensemedia.org for reviews.

**Getting \$ for College** – 10/22 at 6:30pm: Financial strategies to help parents of kids at any age. Register at Eventbrite.



**Back to the Future II** – 10/24 at 2pm: Celebrate Marty McFly's trip to 2015. Check commonsensemedia.org for reviews.

**Resume Makeovers** – 10/24 & 11/14 at 10:30am. Register at eventbrite for expert help in getting your resume noticed.

Spooky Stories – 10/30 at 6:30pm: Award-winning storyteller
Bernadette Nason will perform lighthearted scary
stories for families to enjoy. Ages 5+ only.

Trick or Treat and Face Painting – 10/31 4-5:30pm: Make the library your first stop on Halloween!

**Teens- Tim Burton Clue** – 10/31 at 4pm: Bring forth your gaming and sleuthing skills to solve the murder of the Corpse Bride. (Ages 10+)



**NaNoWriMo Write-Ins** – 11/1 & 11/15 2-5pm: Enjoy a dedicated space to work on your National Novel Writing Month goals. Wifi, drinks, and snacks provided. Drop-ins welcome.

**Genealogy 101** – 11/12 at 6pm: Discover the family history resources available with your library card!

**Hey Lollies in Concert** – 11/14 at 2pm: Join us for a fun concert the whole family will enjoy.

#### **Book Clubs**

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

10/7 Full Moon Rising by Keri Arthur

11/4 Stormy Persuasion by Johanna Lindsey

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

10/18 The Beautiful Mystery by Louise Penny 11/15 Bomb Proof by Michael Robotham

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

10/1 A Wilder Rose by Susan Wittig Albert

11/5 The Sweet Potato Queens' Book of Love by Jill Conner

Browne

## **After School Programs**

Make It! - Mondays at 4:30pm (alternating with LEGO lab) – Engineering activities for kids in Grades 1-5

**LEGO lab** – Mondays at 4:30pm (alternating with Make It!) – LEGO activities and open free play for ages 5+

Martian Math – Wednesdays at 4:30pm – Math enrichment program for Grades 3-5. Contact Emily Berver at austinbervers@gmail.com to register.

Arts & Crafts\*\* – Wednesdays at 6pm – Creative art with Miss Dianne for ages 8+ (or with an adult)

## **Storytimes**

Baby Bookworms (0-18 mos.)- Mon at 10:30am
Baby Bookworms (12-24 mos.)- Mon at 11:15am
Storytime & Craft\*\* (all ages) - Tues at 6:30pm
Toddler Storytime - Fri at 10:30am
Preschool Storytime - Fri at 11:15am
Storytime & Craft (all ages) - Sat at 11am

**Bow Wow Reading Dogs** (ages 5+) – Practice reading aloud to Ella on Saturdays at noon. Sessions are available on a first come, first serve basis.

\*\*free tickets are available 30 minutes before these programs

## **Regular Programs for Adults**

Morning Yoga - Select Thurs at 10:30am. Relax with our free classes for all levels. 10/1, 10/15, 11/5 & 11/19
Writer's Guild- 1st Wed of each month at 6:30pm. Connect with local authors and get feedback. 10/7 & 11/4
English Conversation Group – Select Saturdays 10:30am-12:30pm. All skill levels are welcome! 10/3, 10/17 & 11/7
Knit & Crochet Group – 3rd Thurs of each month at 6:30pm.
Needles, yarn and instruction are provided. 10/15 & 11/19
Adult Computer Classes – see our Eventbrite page for dates, topics and registration to take charge of the digital domain!



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



Register for programs at wblibrary.eventbrite.com



The library will be closed for inventory Thursday, October 29th.

# Four Seasons CHINESE RESTAURANT SINCE 1988

"Our appreciation for your continuous support throughout the years."

## 251-0827 or 252-1064 WE DELIVER Fine Dining or Take Out

Mon-Fri: 11:00am-9:30pm & Sat-Sun 11:30am-9:30pm

14735 Bratton Lane, Suite 255 Corner of Bratton Lane & Merrilltown

## 10% OFF Total Bill Dinner Only

With coupon only. Cannot combine with any other coupon.

Expires 1-31-16

## \$4 OFF Total Bill Dinner Only

with minimum \$30 purchase. With coupon only.

Cannot combine with any other coupon.

Expires 1-31-16

## **FREE**

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

With coupon only. Cannot combine with any other coupon. Expires 1-31-16

WB Businesses from page 2

with rice, collard greens, ground yucca and orange. Open T-S 11am-3pm for lunch and 6-9pm for dinner and Sun 11am-4-pm only. Call them at 512-436-8174 or visit their website at eatportobello.com. See their coupon on page 4.

Malone Specialty Coffee Company, a roast to order microroastery creating "specialty coffee" which refers to the highestquality green coffee beans roasted to their greatest flavor potential and then properly brewed to well-established standards. According to the Specialty Coffee Association of America, coffee which scores 80 points or above on a 100point scale is graded "specialty." With a passion for roasting specialty coffee, Paul and Donna Malone "wish to bring awesome freshly roasted specialty coffee to all of Wells Branch" at its peak two weeks after roasting, beginning with the quality of the beans. They are looking for retail space to open a roastery and scale up production. Go to malonespecialtycoffee.com to order and have delicious specialty coffees delivered to your location in Wells Branch and surrounding areas.

Urban Air Austin Trampoline Park opened in July at the SW corner of Long Vista at Wells Port Dr. and provides a venue for kids, teens and adults to have fun in a healthy environment. Owners Kui Sun and Lee Roberts believe their park promotes an excellent choice in a healthy activity that all ages love. Open 7 days a week and voted #1 for birthday parties in the DFW area, the Austin park offers families, kids, team events & spirit nights a place to party. A hostess is provided for every birthday party so mom can enjoy the day. With customizable packages, the kiddy "bowl", the Ninja Warrior course, two dodgeball games, and Course Monitors (employees) strategically placed for safety and free wi-if, everyone can enjoy the party. See urbanairaustin.com or call 512-953-9026 for hours and more information. See ad on page 6.



## Edwin G. Webb D.D.S.

2013 Wells Branch Pkwy. #101 (512) 251-1274

www.dredwinwebb.com edwebbdds@hotmail.com

- Family Dentist
- Early & Late Office Hours Available
- Convenient Location
- Most Insurance Accepted
- Payment Plan Options
- 22 years serving WB



## **Venture Crew 1409**

Crew 1409 spent a week in the Davis Mountains this summer at Buffalo Trails Scout Ranch. The hikers in our crew backpacked over 35 miles in

the valleys and mesas of the ranch. They encountered thunderstorms, tent eating horses, eating spam out of can, a few less than friendly snakes, and newborn horned toads. On the other side of the valley one crew member spent the week learning the skills of a mountain man from the 1850s. Unlike the spam eating backpackers, the mountain men enjoyed eating food cooked in Dutch ovens (they're the best fed campers). Our third set of crew members spent the week mastering the skills required for scuba diving. The week culminated in a diving trip to San Solomon Springs at Balmorhea State Park.

The crew is currently planning for a weekend retreat at Lost Pines Scout Reservation where we will meet up with crews from all around the state to enjoy shooting sports, climbing, swimming, and whatever else we dream up (s'mores dip anyone?). We are investigating a possible spring break trip to the Grand Canyon.

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

responsible and caring adults.

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



## BSA Pack 140

Cub Scout Pack 140 is the original Cub Scout group in Wells Branch and supports the traditional scouting experience sponsored by the WB Homestead Corporation. We have another exciting year of activities and events planned for our Scouting families. Upcoming planned events include Pack Movie Nights on September 26 and October 3, with participation in the WB Youth Fishing Tournament and Halloween Trunk or Treat community involvement events.

Each school year, we look forward to welcoming new Cubs to the Pack. Our Pack and Dens meet several times each month and boys receive a free uniform upon joining Pack 140. Youth

may join any Boy Scouts of America Cub Scout Pack in the neighborhood regardless of grade school affiliation. If you are interested in having your son in a great neighborhood program please visit our website at www.pack140.org for a link to request more information. Also visit Scouting.org to learn more about Scouting in America and how it helps to build our youth to be strong citizens and leaders.



Rocket launch demonstration at the Join Scouting Night event.

# 728

## **BSA Pack 728**

Pack 728 welcomed families at our Back to Scouting Night at the Live For More Center on September 9th. We're going to have a great year! Activities planned include, camping,

fishing, popcorn sales, Report to State, Rain Gutter Regatta, Lighting of the Luminaries at KF Park, Pinewood Derby, FourthFest and celebrations such as Blue and Gold and Arrow of Light. Pack 728 will participate in the following service projects as well: National Public Lands Day, It's My Park Day and Brown Santa.

Thinking about joining scouts? C'mon! We meet every Wednesday evening at 6:30pm at Live For More Center at the corner of Bratton Lane and Merrilltown. Contact us at wbpack728@gmail.com.



GIRLS

## **American Heritage Girls**

by Kevin Ward, AHG Troop 240 Charter Representative

Greetings everyone! As the new school year begins, we are also gearing up for fall activities including gathering food for the food bank and many other projects. The Troop will be partic-

ipating in the Pflugerville Christmas parade which is always a lot of fun for our girls. The youth who attended the National Conference had a great trip and were full of stories when they returned. We love supporting and encouraging our girls. As always, anyone interested in visiting our meetings to see what we are about, is welcome to join us; meetings are held at Hill Country Bible Church Pflugerville. Please coordinate with Beth Gentilla our Troop Coordinator via email at bethd-vg@austin.rr.com . Thank you.

## **BSA Troop 1409**

The scouts in Troop 1409 and Crew 1409 have had a busy summer! It has been hot, but that was nothing the Troop and Crew could not handle. We traveled to North Texas to Palo Duro Canyon where we hiked to Light House Peak and then traveled out to West Texas to the Buffalo Trails Scout Reservation for our annual summer camp. Scouts earned numerous merit badges including Astronomy, Rifle Shooting, Archery, Bird Study, Archeology, Chess, Scuba Diving and many more and a number of scouts went on 6-day backpacking treks through the West Davis Mountains in the Outback and Mountain Man programs.

The Troop gained a new scout, Eron Jewett, from Pack 409, who has already worked and earned his Scout rank and completed the Trail to Eagle program at BTSR Summer Camp, earning his First Aid and Swimming merit badges.

Life Scouts Evan Jewett and Sean Johnson have completed their Eagle Scout Projects. Sean built several Duck Houses and installed them at Bastrop State Park. Evan Jewett completed a beautifying landscaping project at the entrance of Cele Middle School, his former middle school. Both scouts are finishing up the other requirements for the Eagle Scout rank and will soon go through their Troop and Council Eagle Board of Review.

The scouts have a busy year ahead with many more camping trips and exciting excursions. They provided service to the

community with participation in the Wells Branch Fourthfest as the Color Guard and helped out at the Renaissance Festival event held at Katherine Fletcher Park in late September. To learn more about Troop 1409, visit our website at troop1409.com or our Facebook page at facebook.com/Troop1409.



## **WB Resident Published!**

In August, Wells Branch resident Mari Dombkowski published a book for children who are grieving the loss of a parent. *Not the End* is a true story based on the Dombkowski family's experience after the tragic death of husband and father Keith Dombkowski in 2008. The book is written from the perspective of daughter Thea, who tells how she and her sister Anna continued to grow and enjoy life even after the devastating loss of their father, demonstrating how turning the daily pages of our lives can help heal the grieving heart.

"I wrote this story to give hope to children who are experiencing that painful grief my daughters went through," said

Dombkowski. "I want them to know it will be OK. It will get better."

**Not the End** is beautifully illustrated and is intended for children aged 6-12. It is available on Amazon.



Anna, Mari, and Thea Dombkowski

WBNA Fall 2015 www.wbna.us Page 11

# Wells Branch is AWESOME!!! Special THANKS to ALL who participated in our July 4th Silent Auction! Every year just keeps getting better and better! by Debby Thompson, WBNA President

The Wells Branch Neighborhood Association would like to thank our neighbors for coming out and supporting our organization through the Silent Auction. We had an incredible turnout and broke our record yet again in our efforts to fund our neighborhood activities over the next year. Our Fourth Fest Silent Auction brought in \$5,424.58 last year, up from \$5,204.62 the previous year (which was a record). This year, we raised \$7,872.50, an increase of \$2,447.92 over last year. Y'all ROCK!!!

As most of you know, this is our big fundraiser. Its purpose is to raise enough money to pay for National Night Out, the annual Easter Egg Hunt, participation in Halloween events, Friday night at Luminary Fest in December and to help with our educational/safety programs and candidate forums. We exceeded our goal thanks to all of YOU! Whether you were a donor, a buyer, a volunteer, or the WB MUD, who so graciously allows us use of their facilities, you all made a tremendous difference and the WBNA is grateful!

When you see the neighbors listed below, please thank them for supporting our community. In addition, we hope you'll patronize these businesses and join us on October 6<sup>th</sup> for Wells Branch's National Night Out Against Crime.

## Alamo Drafthouse Cinema – Village

2700 W Anderson Lane Austin, TX 78757 (512) 861-7030 drafthouse.com/austin/village

## **Aura 33Hundred Apartments**

Rachel Johnson, Property Mgr 3300 Wells Branch Pkwy Austin, TX 78728 (512) 244-3300 aura33hundred.com

## Austin HomePage Real Estate David Lotspeich, Broker/ Owner/GRI

Lori Page, Realtor®

Wells Branch Neighbors David (512) 636-8801 Lori (512) 636-5765 austinhomepagerealestate.com

### Austin Metro Moms Donna Malone

Wells Branch Neighbor facebook.com/ MetroMomsAustin

## Austin Overtures, Sightseeing Tours

**Mary Davidson** 

602 E 4th Street Austin, TX 78701 (512) 659-9478 aotoursaustin.com

## Austin Printing & Mailing Bruce Kuemmel, Owner

Wells Branch Neighbor 6906 Guadalupe Street Austin, TX 78752 (512) 302-1499 austinprint.com

## Linda & Dave Baird, Realtors® RealNet Team/Keller Williams

Wells Branch Neighbors 12515-8 Research Blvd Austin, TX 78759 (512) 238-8881 realnetteam.com

### The Bead Stash Emily Spiars, Owner

Wells Branch Neighbor 7437 Burnet Road Austin, TX 78757 (512) 454-0001 beadstashatx.com

## Bedeck Barber & Beauty Salon P.A., Owner

13717 N Mopac Expressway, #425 Austin, TX 78728 (512) 470-0923

### Bo Asian Bistro Leo Ng

2711 La Frontera Blvd, Ste 260 Round Rock, TX 78681 (512) 388-7033 boasianbistro.com

## Branch Bar-B-Q Chris & Catherine Carby, Owners

1799 Wells Branch Pkwy, Ste 112 Austin, TX 78728 (512) 990-5282 branchbbq.com \*see ad on page 16

## Bribery Bakery Jodi Elliott, Owner

2013 Wells Branch Pkwy, Ste 109 Austin, TX 78728 (512) 531-9832 briberybakery.com \*see ad on page 3

## Candi Noble Photography Candi Noble

Wells Branch Neighbor (512) 815-3434 candinoblephotography.com

## Cantu Imports Jose Luis Cantu, Owner

3219 S IH-35 Round Rock, TX 78664 (512) 990-2607 cantuimports.com

## Casa Mia Eddie Ramirez & Alondra

12901 N IH-35 Austin, TX 78753 (512) 785-9577 facebook.com/furnitureaustintx

## Chaparral Ice Hayley Skousen

2525 W Anderson Lane Austin, TX 78757 (512) 252-8500 chaparralice.com

## Chicoine Chiropractic Nicole Edwards, DC & Shelly Hogan, DC

Wells Branch Neighbors 3407 Wells Branch Pkwy, Ste 625 Austin, TX 78728 (512) 255-1777 chicoinechiropractic.com \*see ad on page 5

#### Chili's

Stephen Sharkey 12901 N IH-35 Austin, TX 78753 (512) 251-2442 tinyurl.com/ChilisTechRidge

## Chon Som Catering Marissa & Nat Sawatphadungkij

Wells Branch Neighbors (512) 771-1625 chonsom.com

#### Cindie's - North Austin

14106 N IH-35 Austin, TX 78728 (512) 670-7444 cindies.com

## Classic Soft Trim Patti Cheeseman

15301 N IH-35 Pflugerville, TX 78660 (512) 873-7770 classicsofttrim.com

#### **Stephen Davis**

Wells Branch Neighbor

## Deke for Constable Ann & Deke Pierce

Wells Branch Neighbors dekeforconstable.com

## DeLane's Designs DeLane Spriggs

Wells Branch Neighbor delane.spriggs@gmail.com

#### **Edward Jones Nicole Viator**

Wells Branch Neighbor 1121 Taylor Draper, Ste 103 Austin, TX 78759 (512) 345-4989 edwardjones.com \*see ad on page 17

## Edwin G. Webb, DDS

2013 Wells Branch Pkwy Austin, TX 78728 (512) 251-1274 dredwinwebb.com \*see ad on page 10

## EmbracingLifeLoveArt Renee Sendelback

Wells Branch Neighbor

## **Erincredible Chocolates Erin Caffey, Chocolatier**

Wells Branch Neighbor (512) 470-4547 erincrediblechocolates.com

#### **Esther's Follies**

525 East Sixth Street Austin, TX 78701 (512) 320-0553 esthersfollies.com

## Express Cut 9 Nasrin, Owner

2113 Wells Branch Pkwy, Ste 900 Austin, TX 78728 (512) 251-8939

## Firestone Jason Collins, Mgr.

2500 W Parmer Lane, Ste 170 Austin, TX 78727 (512) 388-6060 tinyurl.com/ParmerFirestone

## Firestone Daniel Edwards, GM

15101 N IH-35 Pflugerville, TX 78660 (512) 252-9200 firestonecompleteautocare.com

## Four Seasons Jack & Tracy Yuan, Owners

Wells Branch Neighbors 14735 Bratton Lane, Ste 225 Austin, TX 78728 (512) 251-0827 austinfourseasonschinese.com \*see ad on page 10

#### Freebirds World Burrito

1100 Center Ridge Dr Austin, TX 78753 (512) 251-9701 freebirds.com

#### **Freebirds World Burrito**

12901 N IH-35 Austin, TX 78761 (512) 251-9701 freebirds.com

## French Quarter Grill Scott Stolle

13000 N IH-35, Ste 600 Austin, TX 78753 (512) 832-9090 frenchquartergrilleaustin.com

#### Garbo's Lobster Heidi Garbo, Owner

Wells Branch Neighbor 14735 Bratton Lane Austin, TX 78728 (512) 350-9814 garboslobsteratx.com

## Glow Spa and Wax House Jessica & Pete Berardi

Wells Branch Neighbors 7739 Northcross Dr, Ste E Austin, TX 78757 (512) 840-1080 austinglowspa.com

## Golden Corral Rosie, Mgr.

12509 N Lamar Blvd Austin, TX 78753 (512) 973-8264 goldencorral.com

#### **Mary Hale**

Wells Branch Neighbor

## Handyman Ben Ben Dion

Wells Branch Neighbor (512) 769-9151

## The Healing Acupuncture Center

Karen E. Nunley, L.Ac. Wells Branch Neighbor 3933 Spicewood Springs Rd, Ste E400 Austin, TX 78759 (512) 338-8810 AustinHealingAcupuncture.com

## Heather Rose Guitar & Voice Lessons

Wells Branch Neighbor (650) 245-9928 heatherscarlettrose.com

## Home Place Structures Sam. Owner

15718 N IH-35 #B Austin, TX 78728 (866) 989-9494 homeplacestructures.net

## Hurricane Grill & Wings Michael Boselah

2701 Parker Rd, Ste 100 Austin, TX 78681 (254) 247-7028 hurricanewings.com

#### James Avery Jewelers Rachel Norris

12901 N IH-35 Austin, TX 78753 (512) 251-8330 tinyurl.com/ JamesAveryTechRidge

#### Jersey Mike's Subs Steven

12901 N IH-35 Austin, TX 78753 (512) 251-3701 tinyurl.com/JerseyMikesParmer

## JLD Wealth Management LLC Jeremy L. David

Wells Branch Neighbor 6300 Bee Cave Rd, Bldg II, Ste 400 Austin, TX 78746 (512) 637-6251 ildwealth.info

## Johnny Carino's Marco Gardinas

12901 N IH-35 Austin, TX 78753 (512) 989-6464 carinos.com/pastapoints

## Joy Peppers Joy Smith

Wells Branch Neighbor (512) 517-1552 facebook.com/joypeppers1

## **KEYE- TV Chikage Windler**

10700 Metric Blvd Austin, TX 78758 (512) 835-0042 keyetv.com

## Kiddie Acres Amusement Park Marina Herring, Owner

4800 W Howard Lane Austin, TX 78728 (512) 255-4131 kiddieacres.com

#### **Gus Kohn**

Wells Branch Neighbor

## Lane Four Swim Shop Tony & Audrey Inga

Wells Branch Neighbors 9070 Research Blvd, Ste 201-B Austin, TX. 78758 (512) 836-5152 lane4swim.com

#### Kim & Dan Lanicek

Wells Branch Neighbor

## Tammy DeWitt Le, Realtor® Horizon Realty Austin

Wells Branch Neighbor 9606 N Mopac Expressway, Ste 150 Austin, TX 78759 (512) 773-3214 familypair.com \*see ad on page 24

## Longhorn Steakhouse

Lucy, Mgr. 2702 Parker Rd Austin, TX 78681 (512) 246-7474 tinyurl.com/LonghornLaFrontera

#### **Angel Lugo**

Wells Branch Neighbor

#### **David Malish**

Murfee Engineering Company, Inc. 1101 Capital of Texas Hwy South, Bldg D, Ste 110 Austin, Texas 78746 (512)327-9204

## Malone Speciaty Coffee Paul & Donna Malone

Wells Branch Neighbors 2102 Taylor-Simonetti Ave Austin, TX 78728 (512) 810-3598 malonespecialtycoffee.com \*see article on page 10

#### Mary Kay Consultant Megan Ward

Wells Branch Neighbor 1913 B Alex Ave Austin, TX 78728 (512) 921-2796 marykay.com/mward7777

### Craig Matthews, LMT

Wells Branch Neighbor 14428 Robert I. Walker Austin, TX 78728 (512) 989-7733 craigshands.com

#### Janet Maxey

Wells Branch Neighbor

## **Tori Maxey**

Wells Branch Neighbor

#### Men's Wearhouse Steve Berry

2711 La Frontera Blvd, Ste 100 Austin, TX 78581 (512) 341-2120 menswearhouse.com July 4th Silent Auction Donors, continued

Mt. Playmore 13609 N IH-35 Austin. TX 78753

(512) 989-8886 MtPlaymore.com

**Monte Neal** 

Wells Branch Neighbor

Papa John's Pizza Melanie Herren, Mgr.

2113 Wells Branch Pkwy Austin, TX 78728 (512) 251-7272 order.papajohns.com

Paramount Theater Maggie Hoffman

713 Congress Ave Austin, TX 78701 (512) 692-0511 austintheatre.org

Pei Wei Tom Jacobs

12901 N IH-35 Austin, TX 78753 (512) 691-3060 peiwei.com/texas/55-techridge

**Ed & Kay Peterson** 

Wells Branch Neighbors

Plexus
Janette Stevens

Wells Branch Neighbor (512) 439-3080 plexusslim.com/steamstevens

**Sue Rave** 

Wells Branch Neighbor

Red Lobster Suzanne

2702A Parker Rd Austin, TX 78681 (512) 600-0145 redlobster.com Barry Samsel
Custom Plumbing Services

Wells Branch Neighbor (512) 837-0437 customplumbing.net

Fred, Nancy & Debbie Schultz

Wells Branch Neighbors

Tracy & Ralph Simon
Wells Branch Neighbors

Snip-its
Lilly Noworatsky

2711 La Frontera Blvd, Ste E200 Austin, TX 78681 (512) 244-9696 snipits.com/locations/round-rock

Souper Salads Denise Jordan

12901 N IH-35 Austin, TX 78753 (512) 252-6322 soupersalad.com

SportClips I35/Parmer Dalila

I35/Parmer Austin, TX 78753 (512) 832-7912 sportclips.com

Starbucks

6301 W Parmer Ln, Ste 401 Austin, TX 78729 (512) 331-7314 starbucks.com

**Starbucks** 

2604 W Pecan St, Ste B Pflugerville, TX 78660 (512) 252-8376 starbucks.com State Farm Insurance Lee Cramer, Agent Sandra Millard

2013 Wells Branch Pkwy, Ste 107 Austin, TX 78728 (512) 251-3473 tinyurl.com/WBStateFarm \*see ad on page 2

State Farm Insurance Carmina Eaton, Agent

Wells Branch Neighbor 4201 W Parmer Ln, Ste 170 Austin, TX 78727 (512) 244-6641 tinyurl.com/CarminaEaton \*see ad on page 7

Studio Luma (Regency Beauty) Milissa Aaron

2711 La Frontera Blvd, Ste 110 Round Rock, TX 78681 (512) 310-1501 regency.edu

Subway - Wells Branch Carolyn Dungan, Owner

(The Market at Wells Branch) 3407 Wells Branch Pkwy, Ste 900-A Austin, TX 78728 (512) 218-4662 tinyurl.com/WBSubway \*see ad on page 8

SuperCuts Rita

12901 N IH-35 Austin, TX 78753 (512) 252-9041 tinyurl.com/SupercutsTechRidge

Tejas Liquor #2 Desh Dinghra, Owner

2113 Wells Branch Pkwy, Ste 700 Austin, TX 78728 (512) 989-9437 tejasliquor2.com **Texas Bar & Grill** 14611 Burnet Rd Austin, TX 78728 (512) 255-2229 tbagaustin.com

Texas Roadhouse Jessica Newton

15415 N I-35 Service Road NB Austin, TX 78660 (512) 670-1818 texasroadhouse.com

**Alberta Thompson**Friend of Wells Branch

**Debby Thompson**Wells Branch Neighbor

Thundercloud Subs Gayla, Mgr. 2500 Parmer, Ste 160 Austin, TX 78727 (512) 255-2013

thundercloud.com

United Access Mary Zatopek 15301 N IH-35, Ste A Pflugerville, TX 78660 (512) 436-0820

unitedaccess.com

Urban Air Austin Lee & Kui Sun Roberts, Owners 15407 Long Vista Drive Austin, TX 78728

(214) 601-6654 tinyurl.com/UrbanAirWB \*see ad on page 6

Vida Green Consulting Tara Fisher Munoz Wells Branch Neighbor (512) 809-3471 vidagreenconsulting.com



## Pam Wachholz, Realtor® HomeCity Real Estate

Wells Branch Neighbor pwachholz@homecity.com (512) 925-5309 homecity.com/austin/agents/pam-wachholz \*see ad on page 3

#### **Chuck Walters**

Wells Branch Neighbor

#### Wells Branch Handyman Daniel White

Wells Branch Neighbor (512) 413-0097

## Wells Branch Soccer Association Chris Connell, VP/Registrar

Wells Branch Neighbors
wellsbranchsoccer.weebly.com

### Wells Branch Vision Care Derek Hamilton, OD

13717 N Mopac Expwy, Ste 350A Austin, TX 78727 (512) 251-4040 wellsbranchvisioncare.com \*see ad on page 2

#### Whittlesey Landscape Supplies Dakota

3219 S IH-35 Austin, TX 78664 (512) 989-7625 989rock.com

## Wings N More Carlos

1200 W Howard Lane Austin, TX 78753 (512) 989-9028 wingsnmore-austin.com

## Wooden it be Wonderful Dianne Koehler, Owner & Artist

Wells Branch Neighbor (512) 827-8547 sites.google.com/site/ woodenitbewonderful

## Bre'Anna Woodward

Wells Branch Neighbor

#### **Z Tejas Restaurant**

Mike Stump, Mgr 9400 Arboretum Blvd Austin, TX 78759 (512) 346-3506 ztejas.com/menus/austin-arboretum

Last, but not least, the WBNA would like to thank all of our Silent Auction volunteers. **EXTRA SPECIAL THANKS to our Silent Auction Chairperson, Debbie Brown** and her organization and donation team: Gus Kohn, Chuck Walters and Pamela Woodward - You did an amazing job! Our die-hard volunteers: Linda Baird, Caroline Beard, Chad Cannedy, Jacob Dawson, Mary Hale, Susan Hammack, Dianne Koehler, Donna Malone, Katie Moore, Bianca Padavick, Samantha Padavick, Terry Perry, Arlie Pfeifer, Lisa Rankine, Ralph Simon, Tracy Simon, and Joy Smith were incredible and our wonderful photographers: Steve Hilchey, Madonna Johnson, Arlie Pfeifer, Debby Thompson, Pam Wachholz & Rob White devoted their day (and night) to capturing 4th Fest for everyone to remember.

You all were fabulous! If I've left anyone out, please accept my sincere apology, let me know, and we'll get you properly recognized! Thanks so much EVERYONE for making it happen!!!



# **KUDOS!**

Thanks to all of you who delivered our Summer issue. You were FABULOUS! Summertime is always rough because so many of our steady deliverers that we depend upon are out of town, but we put the word

out and y'all were truly wonderful. Many, many thanks to each and every one of you.

June Apprill · Dan Barnekow · Bob Bauhs · Emily Berver Shannon & Durbin Black · Karen Buerkle · Creola Burns Phil & Dana Carter · Chris & Alex Connell · Jill Douglass Anna Dzurenko · Dan Ernst · Michelle Gadush Miriam, Melissa & Briana Garate · Susan Gezana Carla Gordon · The Halling Family · Cynthia Hannon Betsey & Tessi Harper · Travers Hough · Bruce Jones Jennifer Jones · Gus Kohn · Sherrie Lindig · Brian Litke Steve & Donna Lyons · Jane & Uma Marawar Joan & Dave Mead · Gary Mueller · Sharon Richardson Kim, D.J. & Kat Sands · Marisa, Mischa & Tasha Sawatphadungkij · Doug Schwartz · Alice Sears Sonya, Tim, Ethan, Andrew & Brendan Shaffer Ralph Simon\* · Joy Smith · Virgil Smith\* · Mona & Gayle Speranza · Debby Thompson · Jill & J.R. Traffanstedt Kevin Ward · Ronnie Weiss · Daniel White\* Pamela & Bre Woodward

#### \*Delivered more than one section

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 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.





Perfect for Tailgating!

## FAMILY PACKS Feeds 3-4 for \$24.99

1 lb. of Meat (your choice) 1 pt. Cole Slaw, 1 pt. Beans 1 pt. Potato Salad

Bread, Pickles, Onions & Homemade Sauce
\*Substitutions 75¢ each

## BRANCH BIG MEAL Feeds 6-8 for \$45.95

2 lbs. of Meat (your choice)

1 pt. Homemade Sauce, 1 qt. Beans,

1 qt. Potato Salad, 1 qt. Cole Slaw,

Pickles, Onions & Bread

\*Substitutions \$1.50 each

1779 Wells Branch Pkwy, Austin, TX 78728 (512) 990-5282 • branchbbq.com

# RRISD Elementary School No. 34 Update

**New Principal Announced** - Round Rock ISD named Gabrielle Niño principal of Elementary School No. 34, the District's newest elementary school, at the groundbreaking ceremony in Wells Branch on July 28.



Niño has served as the principal of Bluebonnet Elementary School for four years and has been a leader in Round Rock ISD since 2006. She served as Assistant Principal at Robertson Elementary, Summer School Principal at Union Hill Elementary, and teacher at Cactus Ranch Elementary. Prior to her leadership roles, Niño served as a kindergarten, first grade, reading recovery teacher and literacy facilitator in Judson ISD.

To read more about Ms. Niño, visit https://roundrockisd.org/rrisd-names-nino-as-elementary-school-no-34-principal/.

**Construction** - RRISD broke ground on the site at the corner of Sauls Drive and Bratton Lane in July. Construction is going well and the District expects to open on target for classes next fall.

**Naming of ES No. 34** - The District began the process the last week in September. Follow this link for updates on how to submit suggestions: https://roundrockisd.org/rrisd-seeks-public-input-for-elementary-school-no-34-name/

**Boundary Process** - RRISD will begin discussion of the boundary process at their next regular meeting on October 15. Meetings are held in the Old Lecture Hall at RRHS, 300 Lake Creek Drive, Round Rock, Texas 78681 and begin at 7pm. They expect to have the boundary plan completed by February 2016.



## Wells Branch Garden Guild Fall Schedule by Dianne Koehler

In August, the WB Garden Guild met over a shared luncheon prepared from our gardens to review the previous year's meetings and events and plan for the following year. We had a fabulous session and have some wonderful meetings planned.

The WB Garden Guild meets at 11am, the 3rd Saturday of most months, at the Wells Branch MUD Annex, 14611 Wells Port Drive. We would love to have anyone with an interest in gardening - whether in pots, garden beds or dreams. Vegetable, fruit tree, and flower gardeners are all welcome.

**October 17th**, the group is taking a trip out to Gabriel Valley Farms in Georgetown to tour the operation and acquire a few plants to add to our yards/gardens. This was one of our most popular events last year. We will carpool out and have more information closer to the date on departure time and return.

**November 21st,** Yvette Shelton will speak on Companion Planting and Edible Herbs & Flowers.

Our December meeting will be a trip to the Lady Bird Wild Flower Center. Date TBD. Watch for details in the next newsletter.

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

WB Garden Guild 2015-2016 Schedule						
Date	Session Title					
September 19, 2015	Fall Garden Planning & Planting					
October 17, 2015	Trip to Gabriel Valley Farms in					
November 21, 2015	Georgetown Companion Planting and Edible Herbs & Flowers					
December TBD	Trip to Lady Bird Wildflower Center					
January 16, 2016	Rooting, Seed-Saving, Propagation & Starts					
February 20, 2016	Experimental Methods in Home Gardening					
March 19, 2016	What to Buy? Flowers & Plants for Spring/Summer					
April 16, 2016	Accomplishments, Volunteer Opportunities at WBE, Butterfly & St. Andrews Gardens					
May 21, 2016	Garden Tour					
June 18, 2016	Tomato Tasting					
July 16, 2016	Natives in Landscaping					
August 20, 2016	Potluck & Planning Session for Next Year					

## **Connally Cougar Celebration 2016**



Connally High School Project Graduation (Cougar Celebration) is doing "Flock a Friend" as a fundraiser for their end of year Substance-Free Graduation Celebration. This is a great fundraiser for an even greater

cause! What could possibly bring more **JOY** than opening your door to a yard full of pink flamingos?!

Flocking is perfect for birthdays, anniversaries, game days or just for fun! You can personalize your message with a flamingo in the colors of a Longhorn or Aggie, patriotic, an old buzzard, Santa & Reindeer, etc. and if you'd like them next to the "You've Been Flocked" sign, just let us know. Cost is only \$25; reserve your date before it's booked!

Share this joy with your friends! If you're interested in "Flocking a Friend", contact Linda Casper at ghosthouse5@ austin.rr.com or 512-771-3005.

Once again, Cougar Celebration will be selling the sheet sets that Wells Branch *LOVES* as one of their fundraisers. All 1200 Thread Count Sheet Sets are \$45 no matter what size! They make *WONDERFUL* Christmas presents.

To order, please send your name, address, cell number, with quantity, size and color to Debbie Brown at marketingimpress@austin.rr.com or call 512-422-2372.

Repurposing FUNDRAISER! Time to clean out the closets! Bring your old clothing, shoes, and household linens to the Extreme Clean Fall event held at the WB MUD Maintenance Yard, 13905 Thermal, from 8am-4pm on Saturday, October 10. Connally HS volunteers will be on hand to sort items for Easter Seals and Easter Seals, in turn, will make a donation based on weight to CHS Project Grad. All household items will be accepted; however only clothing, shoes and linens will count towards the fundraising efforts.

Thanks for helping to keep our kids safe on graduation night!!

## McNeil HS PROJECT GRADUATION



Support our efforts and help keep seniors safe on graduation night by

providing a substance free, fun, all-night celebration! We want to make Project Graduation an unforgettable night for our seniors - and you can help by supporting the following fundraisers:

- Reverse Raffle (\$7500 gift card-see website for details)
- Flamingo Flocking
- Pet Health Clinics
- Poinsettia Sale
- Spring Flower Sale
- Love My Senior T-shirt Sales
- Donations Cash, Gift Cards, etc.

Visit the Project Graduation website to donate and/or to learn more about fundraisers and McNeil High School Project Graduation at mcneilprojectgrad.ch2v.com
Thank you for supporting the Class of 2016!

## **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





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



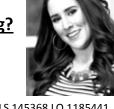


## **Thinking about Refinancing?**

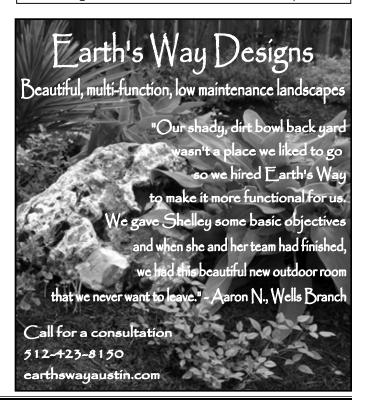
Expert in all types of New Home Loans and Refinances! Give me a call!

## **Ashley Matthews**

Mortgage Loan Officer Wells Branch Neighbor (512) 739-3320 amatthews@amerifirst.us



NMLS 145368 LO 1185441 13809 Research Blvd. #806 Austin, TX 78750





## WB Elementary News by Blythe Jewell

The Wells Branch Elementary PTA is thrilled to announce our first ever WBE Kids Move-a-thon Fall Fundraiser! The Move-a-thon is a greener, healthi-

er, and more profitable fundraiser than the traditional catalog sales we've held in the past. With its fun, active approach and easy donation process, you can feel good knowing that 95% of your simple, flat donation will be retained by our school - and you won't have to re-gift another scented candle or face a giant tub of cookie dough next time you open the freezer!

The fundraiser runs through October 2nd. We would love to have the support of individuals and/or businesses in our community that may not have a personal connection to a WBE student. To make a donation, sponsor a student, or just learn more about how the Move-a-thon works, how the funds raised will be spent, and how this fundraiser is better for our students, our school, and our environment, please visit our page at: https://secure.eventsonline.us/reg/getmovincrew/pub/profile/emn2UgDkdBjaCUa. Any other questions or inquiries from potential business sponsors can be sent to us at fallfundraiser@wellsbranchpta.org.

As always, we are so grateful to be a part of the Wells Branch community, and can't thank you enough for all of your support! Now, let's get moving!

## WBE Health & Wellness Fair by Tara Fisher-Muñoz

Hello neighbors! Wells Branch Elementary will be hosting a Health and Wellness Fair on Tuesday, October 13th from 6:30-8:00pm Please join us in learning all about how to live a healthy and more eco-friendly lifestyle. And, learn about many local programs in which you can benefit! We will have samples of easy to make snacks, smoothies, a garden activity, exercise demonstrations, informative posters, kids activities and more! It's sure to be an engaging and motivating event! Hope to see you there! \*FREE EVENT\*





## **Chandra Patel**

## February 24, 1951 - July 18, 2015

We are saddened by the loss of a community member in Wells Branch. Chandra Patel was an advocate for our community,

and passionate about our kids and their knowledge of the environment.

He was very involved in growing organic fruits and vegetables and shared this passion with the children of Wells Branch by volunteering his time, energy and knowledge in the gardening program at Wells Branch Elementary. In honor of Chandra's life, the PTA will be accepting donations that will go directly to our gardening program at Wells Branch. Please consider honoring Chandra's life by contributing to the work he loved so much!

http://wellsbranchpta.org/2015/07/27/chandra-patel-memorial-fund/

## WBE Garden News by Dianne Koehler

We are so excited to be starting the year running. Due to the rains early in the summer and a bit of planting in early August the kids are coming into the garden with plants growing to observe and add to. We also have many new volunteer teachers and a greatly expanded curriculum for the students. Heather Johnson and Dianne Koehler will be team leads this year with Sarah Slaughter in the Farmer's Market, and will coordinate all the gardening activities as Tara Fisher-Munoz moves on to coordinate other green projects at the school.

We have several new areas that will become part of the garden this year:

- 1. Ms. Loo secured \$1,046.03 in grant funding for "Growing Kids-Growing Gardens" to add a special area for her students supported by Jan Gray, the science lab director.
- 2. Due to our popularity last year, the Farmer's Market area has been greatly expanded and should be able to supply many more vegetables to the community.
- The 5th grade Farmer's Market team last year funded a covered teaching area adjacent to the greenhouse which is ready to receive its first classes thanks to Sarah Slaughter and her family's hard work over the summer.
- 4. Lastly, as many in the community might know, we lost one of our founding gardeners this summer, Chandra Patel. His family arranged for donations in his name to the garden and we have begun plans and work on the Mediterranean Garden that will bear his name. We are pleased to have Shelley Palmer developing plans for this area.

FARMERS MARKET: We have many plants in and hope to open in October with our organic produce. Watch for emails and FB posts.



Numerous volunteers spent weeks readying the gardens and spreading crushed granite to prepare for the students and the fall growing season.



# **Exciting Start for Concordia High School**

by Jim Binneboese

Located at 1500 Royston Lane, just

north of Grand Ave. Parkway, Concordia HS is the closest Christian High School to Wells Branch. August 19th was the opening day of school and a record 41 freshman students began their high school careers. Total enrollment continues to grow – now at 145.

Several new class selections were added this year – Anatomy, Physiology and Exploring Christian Faith. Additional engineering classes were also added, including advanced digital electronics. Students can now choose AP calculus, AP physics and geometry math courses. More dual credit classes were added, giving the student high school credit as well as first year college credit.

Three new faculty members have joined the team – Caleb Taylor, Lisa Fitzgerald and Michelle Thom. Each has advanced teaching credentials including a Master's degree in either Education or Engineering.

To round out the student high school experience, additional sports have also been added including several track choices and 6-man football. On the 28th of August, the Concordia Cardinal Football team played the Heritage School of Fredericksburg on the PAYSL soccer fields on Heatherwilde Blvd. Being immediately adjacent to the CHS property, this historic event was considered the first true home game for the team. The CHS Homecoming was played on September 18th on the PAYSL fields. Concordia High School appreciates the good relationships developed with the Pflugerville PAYSL leadership. The players look forward to playing their first game on CHS property when the stadium is completed in the next couple of years.



## **Deerpark MS Ranger Run 5K**

by Chris Connell, Deerpark MS PTA



We're celebrating our 5TH Annual Ranger Run 5K on Saturday, October 17th at 9am. The Ranger Run is a chip timed certified 5K course through the beautiful Rattan Creek Neighborhood/Park and is held in conjunction with the annual RCNA Rattan Fest. We are expecting a strong turnout once again

this year with participants of all ages and running levels. All the funds raised by the Ranger Run go directly back to support the teachers/staff and students of Deerpark Middle School.

We're combining Healthy Lifestyles with Community Outreach and making the most of the fantastic area we live in. We couldn't do it without the support of Deerpark staff and teachers, our neighborhood, our sponsors, our volunteers AND our participants. Please come join us as a participant for what is sure to be a great race day! You can register now at http://rrptiming.com/node/815



## **Northwest Elementary**

**News** by Cindy Padavick & Betsey Harper

At Northwest Elementary School, we have many fun and interesting events planned this

Fall for parents and students. Each month we will host a family-friendly movie night. Admission is \$2 and food will be available for purchase. Our first movie night is on September 18, and is Sponge Bob Square Pants. On September 29, we will host a Curriculum Night from 6:30-7:30pm. Come learn about what your child is learning and how you can support this at home.

Northwest is proud to be part of the Wells Branch community and is always looking for community volunteers and donations. If you are interested in volunteering or providing a silent auction item for our Fall Festival on October 24, please contact the school office at 512-594-4400.

## 2015 Healthy School Hero

It's official! The award for 2015 Healthy School Hero from Action for Healthy Kids goes to Tara Fisher-Muñoz!

Tara and the Wells Branch Elementary Go Green Team/ Garden Team group have made and continue to make an amazing difference in the lives of the students at WBE. They've earned this award together, as a team: Dianna Gielstra, Dianne Koehler, Heather Johnson, Sarah Slaughter, Erika Stange Fruehling, Carol Glinski, Gabriela Hinojosa, Gina DeVilbiss, Liliana Soto and more! Thank you for all that you and the gardening team do for our WB kids!

To learn more about Action for Healthy Kids, please visit: http://www.actionforhealthykids.org/



**M**eets 6pm Tuesdays at St. Andrew's Presbyterian 14311 Wells Port Dr.

## Clip 'n Save Pool Hours

Katherine Fleischer Pool September 8, 2015 - March 31, 2016

Pool Closed - Swim Team Use Only

Willow Bend Pool 512-310-1833							
August 24	August 24, 2015 - October 31, 2015						
Open/Lap	S-S	1-6pm					
	M-F	3:30-9pm					
Lap Swim	MWF	5:30-7:30am					
	MWF	12-2pm					
November 1, 2015 - March 31, 2016							
Open/Lap	S-S	1-6pm					
	M-F	3:30-8pm					
Lap Swim MWF 12-2pm							

Please note: These are general guidelines. Hours are subject to change. Visit: wellsbranchmud.com/pools for current information and specific exceptions. Pools may be closed due to inclement weather. During heavy storms or below freezing temperatures check the website or call the pools to confirm if they are open.

## WB Disc Golf News by Brian Litke

Congratulations to Wells Branch resident Jerry Perez, Sr. who represented Texas, UT, and the WB at the New Mexico State
Championships on August 24-25, 2015. Jerry won the
Grandmasters Division (age 50-59) with a score of 174 over two rounds winning \$465. His total was 4 shots better than his nearest competitor, a longtime rival who had a higher player rat-



ing (984) than Jerry at (951) going into the tournament. Player ratings are determined by performance in Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA) sanctioned events, and there are only a few hundred out of the 25,000 PDGA members with a rating over 1,000. Jerry, who lives on Rick Whinery Dr, said practice rounds at the Wells Branch disc golf course really help him work on his short game, which is important when every stroke counts. While Jerry has been playing disc golf for several decades, this was the first year he achieved the feat of winning seven of the events he played in, including tournaments in Leander, Shiner, Universal City, Gonzales, Red Rock, Waco, and now Ruidoso, NM. In the photo, he holds his winnings, including a beautiful pottery trophy awarded for his 1st place finish. Congratulations, Jerry!

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Offer expires 12/31/15							

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## WB Photo Club Update by Margaret McGhee-Sufke

October marks the one year anniversary of the WB Photo Club. The group has gotten off to a great start. We've had many excellent meetings and contributions from several members. Our membership has grown to over 25 folks on the e-mail roster, with an average attendance of 10 members at each meeting. We are a small but "focused" group.

We had a special session in September beyond our regular meeting. Christopher Sherman, from OverAustin (www.facebook.com/cvsherman) volunteered his time, came out to KF Park and provided a demo on how to use and manage a camera drone. As part of the community involvement of our group, Chris will donate the images we created at our event to the Wells Branch Neighborhood Association photo albums.

Our current working sessions are exploring and learning key techniques for taking better portraits, just in time for the holidays. We've also had some great hands-on sessions at local parks and meet up groups which have provided some excellent photo ops.

We are not an overly formal or structured group. Please feel free to drop in and hone your skills. Special thanks to Dave DeVore, Steve Hilchey, Madonna Johnson, Aaron Sheffield, Scott Swain, Rob White and Donny Ward for taking active roles in club functions. We are looking forward to another great year.

## Armada Season Recap by Marcynda Verdicchio, President



The Wells Branch Armada (WBA) swim team completed its 26th season this past summer. Thank you to our sponsors, parent volunteers, swimmers, coaches (all former Armada Swimmers), junior coach volunteers (all current Armada swimmers), and

the people of WB that support the team.

The 2015 WBA served approximately 230 swimmers from just over 140 families. Sixty of these swimmers were new to the Armada family this season!

A few highlights from the 2015 season include:

- 10,000 laps or 142.45 miles swam by our swimmers at our annual fundraising Swimathon
- 11 Armada Records broken
- Over 1,100 Time Improvement Ribbons Awarded
- 85 Triple Drop Awards
- 44 Swimmers qualified for NWSC Invitationals, this year at Texas A&M

We are already looking forward to and planning the 2016 season. In person registration will occur in late March and early April 2016. Please look for set dates in late winter/early spring via school communications, this newsletter, and our website https://wellsbranch.swimtopia.com/.

WBA looks forward to seeing everyone at Trunk or Treat at Katherine Fleischer Park on Halloween Night!

Swim Fast - Go Armada!

## WBSA Kicks Off Fall Season With Historic

Registration by Leisha Richardson, Secretary, WBSA

Cooler weather is just around the corner and that means it's time for fall soccer in Wells Branch! We are excited to share that your local neighborhood soccer association, WBSA, has hit another record high, 294 registered payers! Thanks to all of our great team coaches and volunteers, support from the Wells Branch MUD, our community and the dedication of the soccer board, WBSA has achieved 21 percent YOY growth!

Parent orientation held on August 29 was also a great success as new and returning families filled the Wells Branch Community Center to learn about the upcoming season, join in an equipment swap and put their players name in for a chance to win a new soccer ball to start the season.

The WBSA season kicked off on Saturday, September 12 with games throughout the day and ended with a fun kick-off party at Katherine Fleischer Park. All of our soccer families, players, coaches and volunteers came together to celebrate the beginning of another great soccer season here in Wells Branch.

A big thanks to the Wells Branch MUD for their continued support in maintaining the fields and the build of the upcoming Wells Branch Soccer Complex, which is targeted to open in fall 2016.

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

Wells Branch Soccer Association (WBSA) is a North Austin non-profit you sports organization. Visit wellsbranchsoccer.com to learn more.



Photo courtesy of Tim Shaffer

## WB Running Club by Russell Jones

The Wells Branch Running Club is a completely free and fun group of community members who meet every Tuesday and Thursday from 5:45-6:45am at the Gazebo in Katherine Fleischer Park. Workouts are tailored to meet the needs of every individual with members running at all different paces. We have over 20 active members each run -Come join the fun!

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

## **WB Walking Club**

Come out and meet your neighbors! WB Walking Club meets in front of KF Pool on Tuesdays & Thursdays and utilizes the Wells Branch MUD trails. Meet-up time has moved back to 9am for Fall & Winter. Temps are mild in the morning and the trails are beautiful; it's a perfect time to start walking! Some walk for thirty minutes, others for an hour at a very nice walking pace. Questions? Contact Katie Hutcheson at khutcheson@wellsbranchmud.com.

## **FUN Events at the Library!**

## **Celebrate World Space Week**

Discover the universe in a full week of space programs from October 4-10. The Austin Museum of Science and Technology will be visiting with their popular Mobile Planetarium on Friday, Oct. 9 starting at 6:30pm with shows for kids, teens, & adults. Details on individual shows and start times are available online at wblibrary.org or by



phone at 512-989-3188. Seating is limited, so arrive early! The library will also have space-themed storytimes & crafts for kids all week long, plus a special showing of Home (PG) on Sat. Oct. 10 at 2pm for all ages. And don't forget to stop



by the library to see the new interactive display "Discover Exoplanets: The Search for Alien Worlds". Using data from NASA's Kepler telescope and artist conceptions, you can navigate through star systems light-years distant and see what it's like on any of the hundreds of currently known exoplanets! Find out more about World Space Week at www.world-spaceweek.org.

## October Family Movie Nights at the Library

The library's the place to be for fun family movies in October! First, celebrate your freedom of expression during Banned Books Week by voting for your favorite movie based on a popular banned book! Vote on the library website or at the front desk, and watch the winning film on Oct. 2nd at 6:30pm.

Then, get ready for some classic slapstick Halloween hilarity with *Abbott & Costello Meet Frankenstein* on Oct. 16th at 6:30pm! All ages are welcome - Parents, you can check out the film review at www.CommonSenseMedia.org for guidance on age-appropriateness. Finally, as fans of the movie may know, Doc & Marty McFly are taking their DeLorean to 2015, so come celebrate their visit to our time in a special showing of *Back to the Future II* (PG) on Oct. 24th at 2pm. Free valet parking for all flying cars! For more information on any of these events, visit www.wblibrary.org or call 512-989-3188.



Last day to register to vote in the Nov. 3rd election is Oct. 5th

VOTE@wbna.us or (512) 656-0654

# Fall Migration of Birds has begun in Wells Branch Shared by Wanda Holcombe

#### \*FLIP THE SWITCH

Lights Out is a national effort to lower the odds of birds becoming bewildered when flying through brightly lit airspace...

Help provide birds with a safer passage between wintering and nesting grounds by turning off excess lighting in our yards and closing blinds & curtains at night during their migration times. Some birds use constellations to guide them on their annual migrations and bright lights from windows can disrupt their steering senses.

## 7 ACTIONS to protect birds where YOU

## live.... Resource from National Audubon Society

- Reducing or eliminating pesticides and herbicides usage will help keep birds, pets and your family healthy.
- Plant native plants to provide food in the form of fruit and seeds for the birds.
- Remove non-native plants in your yard which do not provide as much good food or habitat for the birds and can threaten healthy ecosystems.
- Attract hummingbirds with sugar water that you can make yourself by combining four parts hot water to one part white sugar.

Make your windows visible to birds to prevent collisions by closing drapes or blinds or placing decals on the glass two to four inches apart.

Create places for nesting and protection for birds and animals during fall and winter weather.

Create or protect water sources in your yard. Keep birdbaths clean and change water three times a week during mosquito season.

## Wells Branch Hosted Bird Walks are back!

All begin at 8:00 am at Mills Pond Gazebo, off Wells Port Dr.

Monday, October 12 hosted by Sharon Richardson Saturday, October 17 hosted by Heather Johnson

**Monday, November 9** hosted by Sharon Richardson **Saturday, November 21** hosted by Heather Johnson

**Happy Birding** and visit the Nature Viewing Station often near the Mills Pond to see what birds are living in Wells Branch.

Wanda Holcombe: (512) 619-3469,

wandah70@gmail.com

Sharon Richardson: (512) 699-8397,

srich816@austin.rr.com

Heather Johnson: (210) 787-6843,

frioswimmer@gmail.com

Wanda, Sharon & Heather would like to THANK Vicki, Bob, & Bill...for their help

watering the Wells Branch Nature Viewing Station.

Be sure and stop by and see how well all the plants are surviving and thriving due to the regular care from these dedicated volunteers.

# The Andy Allen Team



Saturday, October 24th – from 10am until 1pm KF Park (Alpha Collier side)

# THANK YOU WELLS BRANCH!

andy info@andyallenteam.com 512-637-8450



## The Andy Allen Team

Keller Williams Realty

12515-8 Research Blvd, Suite 100. Austin, TX 78759



## 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. 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 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. Meetings now begin at 5:30pm with citizens communication at 6:30pm. Agendas are posted the week prior to the meeting at www.wellsbranchmud.com under the "Board" tab.

#### Tax rate drops to .39 per \$100 property valuation

At the September 15 meeting, the Board voted to decrease the tax rate by .04.

## **Wells Branch Soccer Complex**

Plans were scheduled for final review by the WB MUD Board on September 22.

**NEW Rain Water Collection information and Approval** Guidelines intended to streamline the process are now available at wellsbranchmud.com.

#### **Rec. Center Expansion**

On schedule with estimated completion: February 2016. Adjusted hours due to construction are: M-F: 6-9am & 5-10pm • SAT: 8am-8pm • SUN: 1-8pm

## WB MUD Board of Directors Online Message Board

The Board of Directors has adopted a policy creating an online message board to be used by the Board to communicate and exchange information in a public online forum. Look for this feature at wellsbranchmud.com under "Quick Links".

#### Ad Hoc Sign Committee - Volunteers Needed

At the September 1st work session on replacement of the existing Marquee Signs at KF Park and the Rec. Center, the MUD created an Ad Hoc Committee to discuss sign types and location preferences. They are taking applications from residents through October 15 to serve on this committee. Visit their website to download an application.

## **Upcoming Board Work Sessions**

Wednesday, October 7 (moved to accommodate National Night Out), the Board's work session will include presentations on MS4 requirements and the MUD's Drought Contingency Plan.

Tuesday, November 2 will be a work session addressing possible changes to the Disc Golf Course.

## **Burglary Recovery Tips**

Below is a testimony from a neighbor as to why it's IMPORTANT to MARK your BELONGINGS and keep garage doors closed. With a little preplanning and effort on your part, you can increase your chances of recovery in the event of a burglary. From our neighbor -

"On Sunday 8/23/15, just after 8:30pm we were at home with our front porch and outside garage lights on, but our garage door was open. A man who was holding a cell phone walked up to our garage, looked inside and then walked to the front door but didn't knock or ring the bell. He looked through the door window then walked back to our garage. He entered the garage and stole several power tools.

When I discovered the tools were stolen the next day, I checked my surveillance system video and realized what had happened. I then filed a burglary report with the Travis County Sheriff and provided them with photos of the suspect. A Pflugerville Police Officer recognized the suspect as the same guy he arrested the night of my burglary on an unrelated event. The suspect's car was still impounded so the Travis County Sheriff's detective assigned to my case got a search warrant for it. I had engraved my driver's license number on all of my tools before the burglary, so it was easy to prove that tools found in the suspect's car belonged to me. I got all of my tools back and he was charged with 2nd degree felony Burglary of a Residence.

So, even if you don't think anyone will ever get caught, ALWAYS make a police report and... ALWAYS mark your belongings! There were other items found in the car that were very likely stolen from other victims who may not have bothered to file a report or engrave their belongings; those cases might be harder to prove and return the items back to their owners. This suspect has likely been burglarizing open garages in Wells Branch and Pflugerville for many months without getting caught until now. Please, keep your eyes open, look out for your neighbors, and call 9-1-1 if you see something suspicious!

Exterior doors should be kept closed and locked at all times. Unless you're physically working in your garage, keep it closed. Yard work doesn't count! This can happen to anyone; it only takes a minute or two."

## Your Wells Branch Neighbor & Specialist! TRUSTED • TOP CUSTOMER REVIEWS • 12 YRS EXPERIENCE

#### LIVING HERE...HELPING HERE

All year round you have my 100% commitment to give back to our wonderful neighborhood. Here's how I've helped so far in 2015:

- Hosted a free educational seminar for the community about "How to Successfully Protest Property Taxes"
- Donated a July Fourth Fest silent auction item
- Maintain a list of recommended home repair vendors (ongoing) to help the community
- Gave a donation to the Wells Branch Armada Youth Swim Team & Wells Branch Soccer Assoc.
- Supported the Wells Branch Library Youth
   Summer Reading Program with a donation





WWW.FAMILYPAIR.COM

Tammy DeWitt Le, Realtor® Wells Branch Resident since 1999 (512) 773-3214 tammy@familypair.com

### **GET CONNECTED!**

## **Wells Branch Neighbors Google Group**

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**

It's EASY! Just send an email to the moderators at wbneighbors@gmail.com with your preferred email, name AND physical address in Wells Branch requesting addition to the group. You'll get a fast, friendly response.

If you have questions or difficulty subscribing, please email wbneighbors@gmail.com.

# See event photos on the WBNA Facebook page from

Pioneer Fest, Youth Fishing Tournament, Fourth Fest and more!

OFFICE USE ONLY Dt. Rec'd: Check#:	Support your Neighborhood Association by joining the WBNA and continue to make Wells Branch great!  Here is my check (made out to WBNA) for \$20 annual dues for 2015					
1	I am:	_ renewing my membership	a new 1	member		
Name(s)			E-mail:			
Address:			Phone:			
I/we want to	help with:	Newsletter Delivery	_ Crime Watch	July 4th	1	
Ea	ster Egg Hunt	Nat'l Night	Out	Luminary F	est	
 	MAIL TO: WBI	IA Membership, 2104 Klatte	nhoff, Austin, T)	K. 78728		