



## Celebrate Independence Day the Wells Branch Way at 4th Fest!

*4th Fest is brought to you by the WB MUD Recreation Department—Thank you!*

**Roll out the Red, White & Blue! If you haven't decorated yet, you better get busy! Let's show our Wells Branch Spirit.** Meet in front of the community center at 9:30am. The parade takes off

at 10am. If you've never been to one of our parades before, then you should probably know we have decorated bikes, wagons, trailers, DOGS, KIDS, hats, motorcycles and floats. It's a grand event! If you wish to include a float in this year's parade, please contact the WB MUD Program & Events Coordinator at 512-251-9814.

### 2019 Parade Route (Departs at 10am)

Facing west on Klattenhoff Dr. => Right on Alpha Collier  
=> Right on Fronia Woodward => Right on Cervin Blvd.  
=> Right on Wells Port Dr. => Right on Crystal Shore  
=> Right on Klattenhoff Dr. => Return to KF Park

**When the parade returns to the Community Center, we kick off a FULL day of events.** There'll be children's activities throughout the park from 11am-3pm and free admission to KF Pool with games there from 12-3pm. The Kiddy Train will be all revved up and giving rides and there'll be balloon clowns and carnival games in the courtyard and inflatables in the park from 11-3pm. Be sure and look for the dunk tank and capture a moment in the 4thFest photo booth. Cool off inside the CC and get your face painted, visit the WBNA Silent Auction, stop by the Library table and get a tattoo. **ALL FOR FREE!!!**

Live entertainment starts at 11am under the Big Tent with the Statesboro Review, followed by ventriloquist Ian Varella at 1pm, and the Magic of Gus Davis at 2:30pm. Throughout the day, concessions will be available from local restaurants and community service groups offering a variety of items to enjoy. **Celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> consecutive year at 4<sup>th</sup> Fest, Branch BBQ** will be on hand with their fabulous chopped beef sandwiches. **Malone Coffee** will be back again this year serving coffee, pastries and iced coffee drinks. Stop by the WBNA Silent Auction inside the Community Center for **FREE COOKIES** (including GF and Keto varieties, while supplies last) graciously donated by **Dream Bakery**. And for the grown-ups, beginning at 11am, the WBNA will be serving **FREE BEER** (limit 2) inside the CC as well.

For a complete list of vendors and entertainment, visit [wbna.us](http://wbna.us) or [wellsbranchmud.com](http://wellsbranchmud.com).

The Silent Auction benefits the WBNA. Money raised from this event funds the Easter Egg Hunt, National Night Out, our participation in Halloween Trunk or Treat, crafts at Luminary Fest and all of the educational and safety seminars we put on throughout the year. Come check out all the wonderful gift baskets and gift certificates donated by WB friends, neighbors and businesses and start placing your bids as soon as the parade returns. Contact Debby Thompson at 512-656-0654 or [SilentAuction@wbna.us](mailto:SilentAuction@wbna.us) if you have an item or service you'd like to donate or if you'd like to volunteer. We can **ALWAYS** use a hand!

As the afternoon winds down, we hope you'll join us as WB Celebrates Independence Day with a fireworks show to remember. Please see the map and information on page 2 for parking and viewing areas.

**Come show your spirit, and remember,  
YOU are what makes Wells Branch GREAT!**



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**WBNA Membership Renewal Form on Page 16.**  
**Please JOIN or RENEW YOUR Membership TODAY!**  
**Next Issue due out September 21, 2019.**

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\*Some restrictions apply. Not valid with other offers. Not to be combined with insurance.  
\*\*When a first complete pair is purchased at regular price. Some restrictions apply.

## Silent Auction Items Still 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.

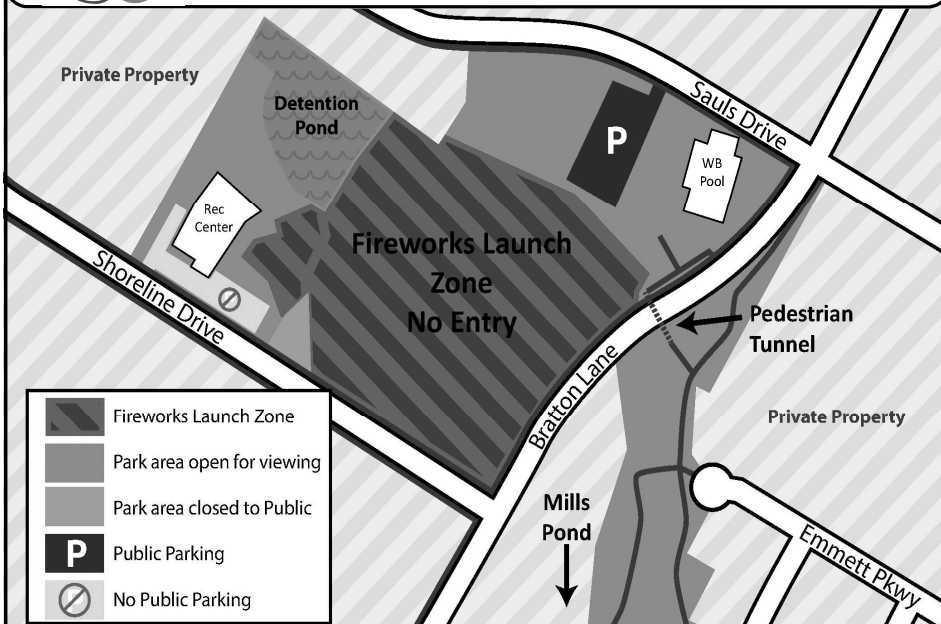
In addition to giving back to our community, donating to the WBNA Silent Auction is a **GREAT way to promote your business!** We are seeking donations of merchandise, gift cards/certificates, theme baskets, and services to auction. In return, you receive exposure for your business at the auction, through flyers, a special "Thank You" section in the September issue of the WBNA Neighborhood News and on our website and Facebook page with links to your site.

If you have items or services to donate or if you would like to volunteer to work the auction, please email us at [silentauca-tion@wbna.us](mailto:silentauca-tion@wbna.us).

**Thank you for making (and keeping) Wells Branch GREAT!**



## Wells Branch MUD 4th of July Fireworks Launch Map



## Fireworks Location Reminder

*Brought to you by the WB MUD Recreation Dept.*

WB MUD will launch the July 4th fireworks display from the soccer field/detention pond on Shoreline Drive between the Rec. Center and Fire Station.

Please refer to the map to the left for designated seating areas. We suggest being in your seats by 9pm, as the fireworks begin at dark (around 9:30pm).

Although parking is available along the street and in the Willow Bend Pool parking lot, the number of spaces are limited, so we encourage all that can, to walk or ride bikes.

Please come early, bring your blankets, chairs, coolers and bug spray.

Don't forget to clear your area and pick up your trash when you leave. Thank you!

Questions? Call the MUD Rec Center at 512-251-9814.



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## Plan Ahead for Fireworks Safety from Travis County ESD No. 2 - Pflugerville Fire Dept.

If you choose to light personal fireworks this holiday, please remember that you must get permission from the property owner – even if it's a commercial property not in use at nighttime.

Remember that fireworks are NOT legal to use on or around schools and Travis County parks. They're also not legal on Wells Branch Municipal Utility District (MUD) property, which includes all MUD facilities, parks, trails, greenbelts, Mills Pond, drainage detention areas, the veloway, and the grassy area located at Robert I. Walker and Charla Circle.

But if you choose to light fireworks in a safe, legal location, Travis County ESD No. 2 (Pflugerville Fire Dept.) wants you to better understand the dangers of fireworks and work together as a family to stay safe. **Rather than risking your safety with personal fireworks, we strongly recommend checking out a professional fireworks show. A great option in this area is the 4th Fest in Wells Branch!**

### Here are other safety tips for your family:

#### Respect Vets and Pets

- Please respect your neighbors if you choose to light fireworks. This year, July 4th falls on a weeknight when many families will be working the next day. Keep in mind that the sound of fireworks can be very stressful for some veterans and others who experience Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). It also scares many dogs and other pets.

#### Make Fireworks a Family Activity

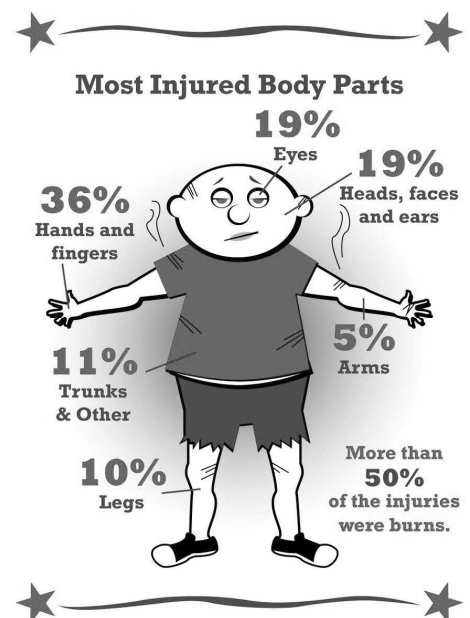
- Before the holiday, make a point to discuss fireworks safety with everyone in your family to decrease the chance of someone getting hurt.
- Never let children purchase fireworks without parents there—even older kids.
- Insist on adult supervision whenever fireworks are being lit—even for older kids. Children age 10 to 14 years old actually get the second-most number of fireworks burns and injuries, right behind preschoolers and toddlers!
- Kids who are younger than kindergarten-age should never be allowed to hold any fireworks on their own, **including sparklers**. Sparklers reach temperatures of 1,200 degrees, which is hot enough to melt metal. Give little kids glow-sticks instead. Pass the sparklers to much older kids and adults to carefully light ONE at a time—ideally wearing gloves.

#### Preparing to Light Fireworks

- Only light fireworks **OUTSIDE** on a flat surface that's far from any homes or buildings. Don't light fireworks near dry grass or leaves—you can catch them on fire.
- Before you light a firework, take a good look around to be sure there aren't any people or pets in range of possibly getting hurt.
- Don't lean over firework devices or place your hand over them when lighting. Immediately back up as far as you can after lighting! The body parts that suffer the most fireworks injuries are fingers, hands, eyes, face, and ears.

#### Safely Disposing of Fireworks

- Don't try to re-light fireworks that didn't work on the first try! Leave them alone, then thoroughly soak them in water with a bucket or hose before you try to handle them.
- Double-wrap ALL fireworks in plastic before throwing them in the trash. The same is true for a firework you find sitting on the ground that looks like it's been used. It may still be active and could re-ignite in your hand or pocket.
- Fireworks are poisonous to pets. Symptoms may include vomiting, a painful abdomen, and bloody diarrhea. Be sure not to leave behind any used fireworks where pets (yours or someone else's) spend time.



## Pet Scanner Update by Mikella Maughan

In my first month or so of scanning Wells Branch pets, I have had the pleasure and joy of scanning approximately 10-12 totally adorable dogs.

Some were chipped, some were not.

One with a chip, registered properly, was reunited this morning within an hour! Same with a sweet pup a few days ago, and another a few weeks back. What happiness!

Another with a chip, but no response from the registered owner ended up at the shelter after a day's stay with a neighbor. The registration information may have been outdated - I don't really know - but I hope he made it back home.

Others, with no chip at all sadly also ended up having to take a trip to the shelter. A safe, but very loud and scary place for pets.

So for those of you with pets, please remember..... the first best thing you can do to get your pet back quickly is to always have them wear a collar and a tag with updated information. This is the quickest, easiest way for a finder to get your furry friend back to you. Even if you don't have a tag, a collar helps tremendously in catching and keeping pets safe, and tags are the quickest way to contact you.

BUT ALSO, if your pet is not microchipped, please get one ASAP. They are available for free for Travis County residents at Emancipet ([www.emancipet.org](http://www.emancipet.org)), or \$20 for Williamson

County residents. They are also free at the Austin Animal Ctr .

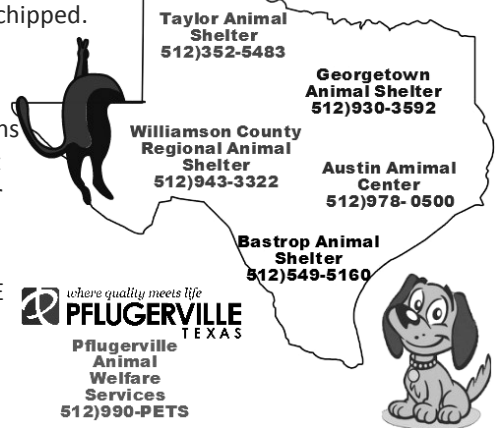
Then, make sure you register the information, and update it if you move or change your phone number. Registration is free, and you don't have to wait for anyone else to register the chip - you can do it yourself online. One place to do this is [www.foundanimals.org](http://www.foundanimals.org), and it is free for the life of your pet! Truly, a registered microchip is your best friend when it comes to protecting your best friend! Collars can and do fall off, and pets can travel or be transported (and are) outside the area where they were lost, making it virtually impossible to reunite a lost pet - UNLESS they are chipped.

Help yourself, help your pet, and help the good Samaritans and volunteers out here who find your pet. This is a small thing you can do that makes a HUGE difference.

Thanks!!!

Mikella

**MISSING A PET?  
CHECK ALL YOUR LOCAL SHELTERS.  
SOME PETS GET PICKED UP AND TAKEN  
TO OTHER PLACES NEAR US!**



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**Host an exchange student  
and bring the world to your  
family!** by Skipper McWithey

Mariell from Germany is planning to attend McNeil High School for the 2019-2020 school year. She describes herself as a kind and dedicated person. She's an avid saxophone player and also plays tennis and enjoys reading. Help make her dream of being an American High School student and seeing a football game come true.

Host families come in all varieties, sizes and shapes! Singles, empty nesters, families with or without children, all make great families for students coming to the US. Learn about another culture, share your everyday life and form a relationship that will stay with you and your family forever.

Contact me to find out how to become Mariell's host family and make memories for a lifetime.

skippermcwithey@efexchangeyear.org | 512.964.4103  
www.exchangestories.com

### European Dance Guild by Daniel White

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 104 of the Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive. The meeting is free and open to the public. For more info, call 512-413-0097.

### Soccer News! By Steve Wilson, President, WBSA

Wells Branch Soccer Association had tremendous turnouts for tryouts for the Fall season last month. Players from all over the area came to experience tryouts over a two-day period. WBSA is continually growing and innovating to provide the most complete, value-oriented, and neighborly soccer experience in the area. The leadership of WBSA is committed to offering soccer programs for ages 4 and up for boys and girls and for competitive and recreational levels.

Registration is open for the Fall season! We hope that everyone comes out to support your neighborhood club as we celebrate our 25 year anniversary! WBSA plans on having a great pre-season party on Sept 7<sup>th</sup> at the soccer complex. We invite all of Wells Branch to come celebrate with us on that day. Watch for more details later this summer.

For more questions or information on how to register, please visit our website at [www.wellsbranchsoccer.com](http://www.wellsbranchsoccer.com) and like us on Facebook!



**Registration is now OPEN  
for the Fall 2019 season!**  
**[wellsbranchsoccer.com](http://wellsbranchsoccer.com)**

## WB Photo Club by Margaret McGhee-Sufke

In June, we held a technique and critique session previewing several great images collected during the WB Garden Tour. Several members turned out for the tour, the weather held, and it was a perfect session for focusing on macro shots.

Make plans to attend the 4<sup>th</sup> Fest events in KF Park. That evening, we have an informal meet up session planned for the fireworks. And don't forget, the 2020 Wells Branch calendar photo contest is under way. Entries will be displayed in the Rec. Center on Shoreline Drive again this year. Look for an update on the July meeting plan soon.

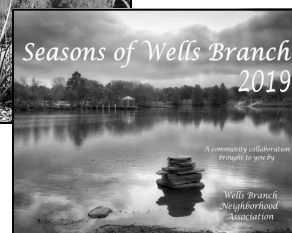
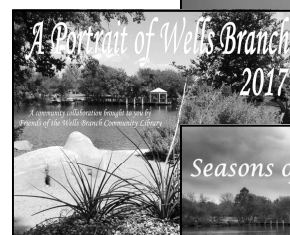
July and August will offer some great events for action shots and of course, fireworks. We'll keep posting updates on the WB Google Group and the WBNA website. Remember, everyone is welcome and you do not need expensive equipment, any camera will do--even cell phones. It's all about the practice, while learning and sharing the hobby.

Our group has also been requested to help out by photographing several of the upcoming community events, which include: First Fridays at the WB Library, local soccer games and swim meets, the annual 4<sup>th</sup> Fest, and the Labor Day Casino Night, etc. Many of these events will offer great practice for special photographic techniques. Please be mindful, the facilities we use are at no charge because we are a community service group.

As a reminder, our group has a standing monthly meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, from 6:30-8:30pm at the Rec. Center on Shoreline unless otherwise noted. WB Photo Club includes some part-time professionals, keen amateurs, general hobbyists and several beginners. Everyone is welcome. Please feel free to reach out to Margaret Sufke, mmsufke@gmail.com or 512-341-0428 for updates.

### Calling all WB photographers!

The WBNA is hosting the Wells Branch Calendar Contest again this year. **Nature of Wells Branch** is our theme for 2020, focusing on our local flora and fauna. Once again, voting will take place throughout the months of July and August at the Wells Branch Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive. For entry details, visit [wbna.us/community/calendar-contest/](http://wbna.us/community/calendar-contest/). Questions? Contact Margaret Sufke, Calendar Contest Coordinator, at mmsufke@gmail.com or 512-341-0428.



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## Summer Art Enrichment Camps 2019

### Let your kids do it THEIR way!

by Dianne Koehler, Art Teacher

Join us for the art mini-camp program. We pack lots of projects into each week of three 1/2 day sessions: painting, drawing, 3-D art, fabric painting, mosaics, clay sculpture, murals, and art discussions. Each week has its own theme. Enroll for one or several. All sessions are \$45 for the 3 days. Register in person at the WB MUD Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive, by phone at 512-251-9814 or visit them online at [https://apm.activecommunities.com/wellsbranchmud/Activity\\_Search](https://apm.activecommunities.com/wellsbranchmud/Activity_Search)

#### Junior Artists | Limit 16

Ages: 7 -11 (must have completed 1st grade)

Mon-Tue-Wed Hours: 12:30-3:30pm

**July 1 | Stars & Stripes:** We will work on lots of patriotic themed projects including dress up items for the WB parade on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

**July 22 | Wacky Science Art Projects:** We will work on colorful applications of science from catapults to crystal experiments to exploding color bombs and more.

**Aug 5 | Painting & Drawing - Traditional & Modern:** We'll spend some time exploring use of colors then explore landscapes, faces, street art and more. We will use Monet, Picasso, and many more artists and themes.

#### Birding in Wells Branch by Sharon Richardson

The Wells Branch birders meet every second Monday at 8:00am at Mills Pond pavilion. Summertime is upon us and our WB birds are active early in the mornings while it's still pleasant outside. Watch the WBNA Facebook page for photos of our walks or join us for a stroll around the pond. Happy birding, Wells Branch!



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## Heat Stroke: Know the Signs

Pflugerville Fire Dept./Travis County ESD No. 2

During hot and humid weather, your body has a harder time cooling. When the body heats up too quickly to properly cool itself – or when too much fluid/salt is lost through sweating or dehydration – the victim may suffer heat exhaustion or heat stroke which is very serious. Below are tips on preventing heat stroke, recognizing its symptoms, and first aid. And remember: never leave kids, pets, or disabled adults alone in parked cars ... not even for a few minutes! Have a safe and enjoyable summer everybody.

### PREVENTING HEAT STROKE

- Slow down! Reduce, cancel or reschedule strenuous activities until the coolest time of the day
- Even if you don't feel thirsty, proactively bring and drink plenty of water (not very cold) or other non-alcoholic, decaffeinated fluids
- Prevent sunburn through sunscreen, sunhats, and minimizing direct exposure to the sun; a sunburn reduces your body's ability to cool down
- Dress in lightweight, loose-fitting, light-colored clothing to reflect heat and sunlight
- Eat light, cool, easy-to-digest foods such as fruit or salad
- Take a cool bath or shower
- Spend time in air-conditioned locations
- When the room temperature is hotter than 90°, don't direct the flow of portable electric fans toward you because the dry, blowing air may further dehydrate you

### HEAT STROKE SYMPTOMS

- Altered mental state or confusion
- Hot, red, dry, or moist skin
- One or more of these symptoms: dizziness, throbbing headache, nausea, shallow breathing
- Rapid and strong pulse
- Fainting or loss of consciousness
- Body temperature 103°F or greater

### FIRST AID FOR HEAT STROKE

- Heat stroke is a severe medical emergency! Call 9-1-1 or get the victim to a hospital immediately
- Get to a cooler setting, preferably air-conditioned
- Do not give fluids
- Reduce body temperature with cool cloths or a bath
- Use a fan only IF the heat index is BELOW the high-90s

HEAT EXHAUSTION		OR	HEAT STROKE	
Faint or dizzy		Throbbing headache	No sweating	
Excessive sweating		Cool, pale, clammy skin	Body temperature above 103° Red, hot, dry skin	
Nausea or vomiting		Nausea or vomiting		
Rapid, weak pulse		Rapid, strong pulse		
Muscle cramps		May lose consciousness		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get to a cooler, air conditioned place</li> <li>• Drink water if fully conscious</li> <li>• Take a cool shower or use cold compresses</li> </ul>			<h2>CALL 9-1-1</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take immediate action to cool the person until help arrives</li> </ul>	
<a href="http://Weather.gov/socialmedia">Weather.gov/socialmedia</a> <a href="http://Weather.gov/heat">Weather.gov/heat</a>			<a href="https://twitter.com/SacramentoOES">@SacramentoOES</a> <a href="http://SacramentoReady.org">SacramentoReady.org</a>	



## WB Garden Guild by Christine Bloemsmma

Our Texas Farmers' Market at Lakeline Field Trip on June 15 was a huge success! Thanks go out to Joan Mead for organizing this event.

The July 20 meeting will be a "Garden Pot-luck" - but if your garden hasn't been lucky, feel free to bring something purchased or to drop in with or without a contribution!

August 17 will be our planning meeting for next year - please come with suggested topics for October and beyond; if you cannot make

it, send your suggestions through our Facebook page.

September 21's topic will be "Fall Planting."

We are a friendly group who meets once a month to discuss gardening! All are welcome! Watch for updates on the Wells Branch Garden Guild Facebook Group and WBNA website, wbna.us.



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## FUN IN THE SUN

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**What is HEATSTROKE?** Heatstroke occurs when normal body mechanisms can't keep the body's temperature in a safe range. Animals don't have efficient cooling systems like humans (who sweat) and can get overheated easily.

### HEATSTROKE OCCURS WHEN PETS...



HAVE NO ACCESS TO SHADE OR WATER...



ARE EXERCISED...



ARE LEFT IN CARS (EVEN ON A 70° DAY)...

IN HOT OR HUMID WEATHER.

## SIGNS OF HEATSTROKE

### IN DOGS

- rapid breathing
- weakness
- bright red tongue
- dizziness
- red or pale gums
- vomiting
- thick, sticky saliva
- diarrhea
- depression
- shock/coma



### IN CATS

- rapid breathing
- restlessness
- redness in mouth
- drooling
- sweaty feet
- vomiting
- stumble/stagger
- lethargy
- excess grooming
- panting

## HOW TO PREVENT HEATSTROKE



**KEEP PETS COOL** in the shade, especially if they have certain predisposing conditions like older age, obesity, heart disease or breathing issues.



**PROVIDE ACCESS** to fresh water at all times and make sure outside pets have access to shaded areas.



**ON A HOT DAY**, restrict exercise and avoid places like the beach and concrete or asphalt areas. Do not muzzle your dog on hot and humid days.



**WET YOUR DOG DOWN** with cool (NOT ICE) water, or allow him/her to swim.



**TO HELP PETS COOL OFF**, freeze water bottles or fill resealable bags with ice and water. Wrap them in towels for your pets to lay on.



**DO NOT** leave your pet in a hot car, even if parked in the shade or gone for a short time.

Texas Veterinary Medical Foundation | VMF.ORG  
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## WB Business Spotlight 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 successes of the businesses in the District directly influence our property values. When we "Shop WB" we all benefit.

### New Businesses in WB -

**Savage Tattoo Co.** owner John Savage opened last August in the Market at Wells Branch at 3407 Wells Branch Pkwy, Ste 850. He is open 7 days a week from Noon to 10pm. John is the solo artist at Savage Tattoo, a veteran owned/operated shop catering to everyone and especially to military, veterans, and first responders. John is a single dad so sometimes you'll see his young daughter in the shop. His business is very approachable, clean and friendly. He only does tattoos, no piercings, and he offers a very high quality of work at more reasonable prices than most other artists with very personalized service. John has been performing tattoo artistry for about 14 years on and off around his US army and government service. See some examples of his work at <https://www.facebook.com/savagetattooco/>. Appointments are recommended so call John at (512) 852-8059 today!

**Vaped Up Dripped Out** opened December 5, 2018 by owners Trey Allen and his wife Siyarra in the Market at Wells Branch at 3407 Wells Branch Pkwy, Ste. 675. They are open Tu-Fr 11am-7pm, Sa 10am-8pm & Su 12-5pm. They offer Vape supplies, CBD & Kratom. Customer service and satisfaction and providing quality products at competitive prices are their priorities; they won't sell any products without laboratory reports so you know what you are buying. If you have a special request they will do their best to order it for you. They even have CBD Pet Spray for age related ailments, jitteriness, stress or stomach issues. They offer a 10% discount if you mention that you liked their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/vudotexas/>. Stop by and see what Trey has to offer or call (512) 704-4349.

### Business Update -

**Garbo's** has re-built their patio seating area to include a mister for comfort for our Texas heat. Children's movies will be shown outside on the deck on Fridays and Saturdays after sundown (weather permitting). For the adults, Garbo's is now offering Frose' (frozen Rose') with other summer wine cocktails coming soon. As a summertime feature, they have fresh Mango pie and their delicious Key Lime pie for a cool afternoon treat..

For the 4<sup>th</sup> of July they will have a special Monster Lobster Roll – ¼ lb. of lobster meat for \$55. Their featured Whoopie Pie (for the 4<sup>th</sup> only) is a special blueberry cake with strawberry cream. They will be open 11am-9pm that day. They are now hiring servers for the restaurant and the food trucks. They will celebrate their 6<sup>th</sup> anniversary in August.

## Is Solar a good deal in Wells Branch?

by Shaun Harris | 512-635-5230

Look around Wells Branch. When you see solar panels on the roofs of many neighborhood homes, do you wonder how much solar costs and if it will actually save you money on your electricity?

### How much DOES solar cost?

The cost of solar depends primarily on 2 things. The shape of your roof, and the amount of power you use. That's it! That is why for most people, a monthly solar payment is comparable to paying the electric bill.

### What do you need to know about solar?

There are 3 main factors that need to be considered before deciding to go solar.

1. The reputation of the company doing the installation and how likely they are going to be in business 25 years from now to service the warranty.
2. The type of equipment on your roof. Different types of systems have different warranties and maintenance costs down the road.
3. Return on investment. You need to calculate how quickly solar will start saving you money on your monthly electricity, and how much money will be saved over the life of the system.

### Why now?

The 30% federal tax credit that came out in 2008 is set to expire December 31, 2019. With a reduction in the incentive scheduled over the next 2 years, the tax credit is going away completely. With 30% of the total cost of the system being covered by the government, average homeowners can afford to go solar.

### Do you pay Austin Energy for electricity?

Austin Energy has a \$2500 rebate for going solar. From now until August 31, 2019, they are also offering an additional \$1000 bonus to the rebate!

With all of these incentives in place, there really has never been a better time to see if your house is right for solar. Not everyone can qualify for these programs, and federal incentive.

If you have any questions or would like to see if your roof looks good for solar please reach out. I had such an amazing experience going solar with Momentum Solar, that I decided to work with them so all of my friends and family can go solar before it's too late. I was able to get a special rate for Wells Branch residents on top of the \$3500 Austin Energy rebate, and 30% tax credit. Please let me know if you would like more information. I can tell you over the phone or text message if your roof is good for solar.

*The WBNA, its Board and Members are not affiliated with Momentum Solar, nor do we endorse their product. Shaun is a Wells Branch homeowner who asked to alert neighbors to the upcoming changes in tax credits and the rebates Austin Energy is offering. We encourage you to get multiple bids when considering a major purchase.*

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

With the summer vacation season already here, it's a good time to examine the scams that await us as we book rooms, cars and tours online. Which is almost 100% of us. I remember when you went to your travel agent to discuss the options for your dream vacation and you would wait for a quote after the agent had checked out packages for you. Travel agencies have been rendered obsolete by technology.

In the self-service age, how do you to protect yourself? First, get recommendations for travel destinations and companies from people that you trust. Second, when checking online travel deals, tour companies, hotels, etc., search for their name plus the words "scam", "review" or "complaint". This will reveal whether they are legitimate. Next, look for hidden fees, taxes and other charges that can add \$50 per night or more to your cost. Obtain a copy of cancellation and refund policies BEFORE you pay. Be in no rush to make the deal, if you are pressured or something doesn't feel right, run! If you are buying travel insurance, make sure the company is licensed by checking them out at [www.ustia.org](http://www.ustia.org). Once you purchase a booking, print copies of the confirmations and bring them with you to protect against the property saying the reservation was "lost" and that you must pay current rates.

Use a credit card for the bigger transactions, you will have more protection against fraud than if you use a debit card, cash or check. Only take the credit cards with you that you will use, leave all others at home. Add the contact numbers for each of your cards to your phone's address book. Make copies of all credit cards, insurance cards and identification in case yours are stolen, so you'll know what was lost.

If traveling overseas, keep a color copy of your passport in each bag, it can be a lifeline if the worst happens. This saved one of my team members on a recent African mission trip when his backpack was stolen. Also, take more than one credit card. I have had one compromised while I was in Kenya and had to rely on my backup card. Learn which countries your credit cards work in. Mastercard and Visa are universal, many places don't accept Discover or other cards. Finally, have fun!

[dave@mrpcaustin.com](mailto:dave@mrpcaustin.com) | [mrpcaustin.com](http://mrpcaustin.com) | 512-323-5343

## DIY Water Leakage Alarm by WB Handyman, Daniel White

Over the next few months, I will be sharing articles in the newsletter to help the homeowner protect their house, save money, and to make life better.

If you do not have a water leakage alarm, you are in **DANGER** of having a flooded house, causing water damage to your home. The water leakage alarm is about the size of a box of kitchen matches and powered by a 9 volt battery. You should place one near all water sources: bathrooms, kitchen, water heater, etc. When water comes into contact with the two contacts on the bottom of the unit, a 110 db alarm will sound. The 'Water Watch Dog' is available at Home Depot for about \$14 each plus the cost of a 9 volt battery. If you have any questions, please contact Daniel at 512-413-0097.

## Equity + Low Rates = CHOICES!

**Many of us in Wells Branch have a lot of equity in our homes that could be used to help us downsize or move into more space - BUT - dealing with the whole selling process can be overwhelming.**

What if you could use your equity to move into your new home, and THEN put your current home on the market without showing restrictions, appointments, having to vacate to show, having to keep it spotless....

One of my lending partners just rolled out a program that may work for you! Call today and let's assess your current situation and see how we can help!

## Coming Soon

### WELLS BRANCH - Round Rock ISD - 1550 Sq Ft

Within the last few years, many features of this charming 1-story home have been updated, including all windows replaced. Easy access to WBE-AIA, community garden, toll road, metro rail and our wonderful park system!  
(Photos not available)

### Cedar Park, Woodford Estates - Leander ISD

This massive home lies in a quiet Gated Community, and features almost 4000SF with the master down, elegant double-landing stairs leading to huge gameroom and large media room upstairs.



### Falcon Pointe - Pflugerville ISD - HUGE lot

Amenity rich community; house is around the corner from a pocket park, within 1/2 mile of Costco & Stonehill Town Center. This 4 bedroom home features a study, formal DR/flex space PLUS a large 2nd living space upstairs!



**Call today 512-925-5309**



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

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING Member SIPC



## FOL News by Tracy Simon, President

Come join the Friends of WB Community Library! Did you know your membership fee is tax deductible? Visit our website, [wbfriends@wblibrary.org](mailto:wbfriends@wblibrary.org) for more information and our membership fee scale.

FOL members are ambassadors for our Wells Branch Community Library. We participate in Pioneer Fest, 4th Fest, National Night Out, Trunk or Treat and Luminary Fest with the help of our volunteers.

We have underwritten prizes for the Summer and Winter reading programs and the Library's First Friday program with the funds raised from our community garage sale and donations we receive.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
for our next  
**FOL Community**  
**Garage Sale!**  
**March 30, 2020**



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## 4th of July - Work Toward Your Own Financial Independence Day

submitted by Nicole Viator, Financial Advisor

We're getting close to the Fourth of July, our national Independence Day. This celebration may get you thinking of the many freedoms you enjoy, but have you thought of what you might need to do to attain financial freedom?

Your first step is to define what financial independence signifies to you. For many people, it means being able to retire when they want to, and to enjoy a comfortable retirement lifestyle. So, if this is your vision as well, consider taking these steps:

**Pay yourself first.** If you wait until you have some extra money "lying around" before you invest for retirement, you may never get around to doing it. Instead, pay yourself first. This actually is not that hard to do, especially if you have a 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan, because your contributions are taken directly from your paycheck, before you even have the chance to spend the money. You can set up a similar arrangement with an IRA by having automatic contributions taken directly from your checking or savings account.

**Invest appropriately.** Your investment decisions should be guided by your time horizon, risk tolerance and retirement goals. If you deviate from these guideposts – for instance, by taking on either too much or too little risk – you may end up making decisions that aren't right for you and that may set you back as you pursue your financial independence.

**Avoid financial "potholes."** The road to financial liberty will always be marked with potholes you should avoid. One such pothole is debt – the higher your debt burden, the less you can invest for your retirement. It's not always easy to lower your debt load, but do the best you can to live within your means. A second pothole comes in the form of large, unexpected short-term costs, such as a major home or auto repair or a medical bill not fully covered by insurance. To avoid dipping into your long-term investments to pay for these short-term costs, try to build an emergency fund containing six months' to a year's worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid, low-risk account.

**Give yourself some wiggle room.** If you decide that to achieve financial independence, you must retire at 62 or you must buy a vacation home by the beach, you may feel disappointed if you fall short of these goals. But if you're prepared to accept some flexibility in your plans – perhaps you can work until 65 or just rent a vacation home for the summer – you may be able to earn a different, but still acceptable, financial freedom. And by working a couple of extra years or paying less for your vacation home expenses, you may also improve your overall financial picture.

Putting these and other moves to work can help you keep moving toward your important goals. When you eventually reach your own "Financial Independence Day," it may not warrant a fireworks display – but it should certainly add some sparkle to your life.

*Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation. This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.*



All programs are free and open to the public.

Programs with \*\* require advance registration at [wblibrary.eventbrite.com](http://wblibrary.eventbrite.com).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **First Friday: Percussion Show with Mark Shelton\*\***

Friday, July 5 at 6:30 p.m.

Enjoy a high-energy performance by Mark Shelton as he presents his show, *Music from My Galaxy*.

### **Mars Exploration with a NASA Scientist\*\***

Friday, July 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Learn about NASA's Mars rover missions from NASA employees Elizabeth Smith and Dr. Glenda Johnson.

### **Cody Fisher Variety Show\*\***

Sunday, July 14 at 4:30 p.m.

Enjoy an afternoon of magic, comedy, and never-before-seen illusions as Cody Fisher returns to the library!

### **Get Started with Backyard Astronomy\*\***

Saturday, July 20 at 2 p.m.

Find out what it takes to be an amateur astronomer!

### **Rob Duquette Kids Concert\*\***

Friday, July 26 at 10:30 a.m.

Enjoy a morning of uplifting children's music!

## KIDS & TEENS

\*There will be no children's programs August 1-7.\*

### **Storytimes**

Mondays at 10:30 (Baby) and 11:15 a.m. (Toddler)

Fridays at 10:30 (Toddler) and 11:15 a.m. (Preschool)

Enjoy fun stories and songs at the library!

### **LEGO Lab (Ages 5+)**

Mondays from 4 to 5 p.m.

Robotics and free build. Robotics registration at 3:30.

### **Spanish Circle Time (Ages 0-3)**

Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.

Learn Spanish vocabulary and early concepts.

### **Circle Time (Ages 0-3)**

Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

Learn basic concepts through songs and repetition.

### **STEAM Studio (Ages 4-12)**

Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

Complete science-, technology-, engineering-, art-, and math-themed activities with a creative twist.

### **Sign Language Storytime (All Ages)**

Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.

Enjoy stories and songs in American Sign Language!

### **Storytime & Craft (All Ages)**

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

Hear stories and make a simple craft!

## SUMMER READING

June 1 through July 31

We're exploring a Universe of Stories this summer at the library!

Join us for lots of fun events and participate in our reading challenge. Keep track of your reading at [wblibrary.readsquared.com](http://wblibrary.readsquared.com)!



### **Cartooning Programs\*\***

Saturday, July 27

"An Alien Took My Library Book" Kids Show: 10 a.m.  
Workshop for Teens and Adults: 12 to 2 p.m.

### **DIY Wednesdays (Ages 18+)\*\***

Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the LAB

Learn a new DIY skill each week in the library's Learn and Build area. Registration is limited and required.

## UPCOMING CLOSURES

**Thursday, July 4**

*Library closed for Independence Day*

## ADULTS

### **Open LAB Hours**

Wednesdays, 4-8 p.m. | Saturdays and Sundays, 1-4 p.m.

Learn to use library-supplied tools to complete DIY projects.

### **Computer and Career Workshops \*\***

Explore topics like Microsoft Word and Excel, résumé help, and more! See all class offerings on our calendar.

### **Spanish Conversation Group**

First and third Mondays 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.

Connect with the Guild on Meetup:

[meetup.com/Wells-Branch-Fiction-Writers-Guild](http://meetup.com/Wells-Branch-Fiction-Writers-Guild)

### **Morning and Evening Yoga**

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

Second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m.

Please bring your own yoga mat.

### **Knit & Crochet Group**

Second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m.

Knit and crochet items benefitting the Austin Scarf Project.

## Summer Yoga Series at KF Park

Sundays this summer, join Liz Range-Pendell, RYT 200, for Yoga in the Park! Liz will lead classes every Sunday morning from 9:00am to 10:00am at Katherine Fleischer Park in front of the Gazebo (weather permitting). Liz is also teaching a 45-minute yoga session (great for post run/walk stretching) Wednesday mornings at 6:30am near the Meditation Garden at Mills Pond.

Classes are \$8, kids are free, and payments accepted include cash, check, credit card, Venmo, or Cash App.

Liz is a registered 200-hour yoga teacher, and has two children who attend Wells Branch Elementary. Liz combines elements of Hatha and Vinyasa yoga for classes that are suitable for all levels.



*Please text (512) 507-5065 to be added to a "rain-out" list for Liz's sessions. Texts will only be sent if yoga is rained out on Sunday mornings.*

## Prefer your yoga indoors?

Don't forget FREE community yoga is offered every week at the WB Community Library! 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 10:30 am with April, and 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 6:30 pm with Jeanene. Both are adult classes, appropriate for all levels. Please bring a yoga mat and a throw-sized blanket or beach towel.

## Looking for more yoga?

The WB Recreation Center is in the process of hiring instructors for the fall schedule and plans to offer both morning and evening yoga classes weekly. Stay Tuned!

## Aquafit Classes

by Katie Hutcheson, WB MUD Aquatics Supervisor

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).

## Keep WB Beautiful Volunteer Events

by Katie Hutcheson, WB MUD Aquatics Supervisor

KWBB is a volunteer program dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for Wells Branch MUD residents through green initiatives and beautification projects.

After a very busy Spring, the group will be on hiatus until Fall when the temps cool again. Watch for event info in the September newsletter and join us for "It's My Park Day" in November.

## WB Walking Club

by Katie Hutcheson, WB MUD Aquatics Supervisor

Summertime is HERE! Take advantage of our breezy, cool mornings and join us! The trails are beautiful; trees are green and wildlife is abundant. WB Walking Club meets in front of KF Pool at 7:30am **AND** 8:30am on Tuesdays & Thursdays and utilizes the Wells Branch MUD trails. The 7:30am group walks at a faster pace and for longer distances while the 8:30am group is best for beginners or those who'd like to take it a little more slowly and enjoy the scenery.

For more info, contact Katie Hutcheson at 512-516-2621 or [khutcheson@wellsbranchmud.com](mailto:khutcheson@wellsbranchmud.com).

## WB Running Club by Kara Myers

The Wells Branch Running Club is a completely free and fun group of community members who meet every Tuesday and Thursday at 5:45am at the Gazebo in KF Park. Workouts are tailored to meet the needs of every individual with members running at all different paces. We also do weekend runs, usually on Saturday mornings. If you have a particular event that you're training for, let us know and we can be sure to help you meet your goals. Come join the fun!

We are now on Twitter @wellsbranch\_run and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/wellsbranchrunclub/>. Call, Text, or E-mail : [karamyers@austin.rr.com](mailto:karamyers@austin.rr.com) | (512) 470-9782

## Calling all Seniors! Retired? Bored?

## Ready to meet some new friends?

## Join the Silver Branchers! by Glen Garey

The Silver Branchers began in 1988 as a group of seniors interested in meeting for fun and fellowship. The current group has continued this tradition and would like to extend an invitation to any and everyone who might be interested in making new friends. Meetings are held Thursdays from 1-3pm at the Wells Branch Rec. Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive to visit and play games. We also have socials and take day trips to local places of interest from time-to-time. Membership is free. There are no age requirements; everyone is welcome.

## Save the Date for our 2019 Summer Day Trip

**Thursday, July 18 – Museum trio:** **Bullock** (<https://www.thestoryoftexas.com>), **Blanton Museum of Art** (<https://blantonmuseum.org/>) and the **Harry Ransom Center** (<http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/>) are all in close proximity so you can choose which you wish to visit. Cut off for registration is July 11. We will leave the Rec. Center at 10:00am and return at 2:00pm (back at the Rec. Center by 2:30pm).

*You may sign up for events with the Wells Branch MUD's customer service at 512-251-9814 or at the customer service desk at the Wells Branch Recreation Center. Please note that if we are not collecting fees in advance of an event, you will be responsible for making reservations if needed and paying any fees. Transportation may be limited, so please insure that you have secured a ride as we are not responsible for forfeited event fees. If private cars are used for transportation, you may be asked to contribute for the driver's expenses. For more information, call Glen at 512-461-1665 or see our information on the Wells Branch Neighborhood Association website: <http://wbna.us/community/silver-branchers/>*

# Clip-n-Save Summertime Events

## Movies in the Park

**Friday, July 20 | *The House with a Clock in its Walls***

**Saturday, August 17 | *Dumbo***

**KF Park | 2106 Klattenhoff Drive\***

Bring your blankets and chairs and enjoy a fun-filled night with your family and neighbors. Admission is free. Movies are PG. Parking is limited so residents are encouraged to walk or ride a bike. **Concession sales begin at 8pm with the movie starting at dusk.** Hosted by WB MUD Rec. Dept.

**\*Alternative Bad Weather Location:**

**WB Rec. Center | 3000 Shoreline Drive**

## Dive-In Movie!

**Friday, August 9 | *The Meg* | PG-13 | 8:30pm**

**KF Pool | 2106 Klattenhoff Drive**

Wells Branch MUD will host the last Dive-In movie of the summer at Katherine Fleischer Pool on August 9. Come out for ***The Meg***! Food trucks will stay later this Friday.

Regular pool admission rules and fees apply. Admission starts at 8:30pm, the movie will start at 9pm. Only noodles are allowed as floatation devices. The capacity will be 80 guests so arrive early to gain entry!

## WB MUD Labor Day Casino Night

**Saturday, August 31 | 6-9pm**

**WB Rec. Center | 3000 Shoreline Drive**

In need of an adult's night out?! Wells Branch MUD will be hosting their annual Labor Day Casino Night from 6-9pm on Saturday, August 31 at the Recreation Center.

Come see Wells Branch transform the gym into a Casino! Casino Knights Inc. will bring in Blackjack tables, a Roulette and Craps table as well as Texas Hold 'Em! Players will cash out their winnings at the end of the night for raffle tickets. Will your lucky tickets win you one of the amazing prizes? Are you ready to tempt fate? This event is for adults 21 and older; IDs will be checked at the door. Alcohol, sodas, and snacks are free. Alcohol wrist bands must be worn for the duration of the event. No alcohol allowed outside of the gym.



## Food Truck Fridays

Food Truck Fridays continue this summer through Labor Day Weekend at KF Park, 2106 Klattenhoff! Bring the whole family and enjoy your dinner outside. Each week will feature popular local food trucks. From lobster rolls to BBQ to tacos, there is something for everyone!

## WB FourthFest

**Thursday, July 4 | 10am-5pm**

**KF Park | 2106 Klattenhoff Drive**

Wells Branch is famous for its Fourth Fest celebration. The day begins with a short parade starting at KF Park at 10am. Spectators are welcome to line the street to watch. Please contact the WB MUD Programs and Events Coordinator at 512-251-9814 if you would like to have a float in the parade. When the parade returns, there'll be an afternoon of entertainment under the big tent, concessions from local restaurants and community service groups offering a variety of items to enjoy, and activities for the kids around Katherine Fleischer Park. KF pool will be open and free to the public as well.



The Silent Auction is back this year and benefits the WBNA. Money raised from this event funds the Easter Egg Hunt, National Night Out, WBNA participation in Halloween Trunk or Treat, Kids' Crafts at Luminary Fest and all of the educational and safety seminars we put on throughout the year. Come check out all the wonderful gift baskets and gift certificates donated by WB friends, neighbors and businesses and start placing your bids at soon as the parade returns. Contact Debby Thompson at 512-656-0654 or [SilentAuction@wbna.us](mailto:SilentAuction@wbna.us) if you have an item or service you'd like to donate or if you'd like to volunteer at the Silent Auction—the WBNA can ALWAYS use a hand!

## WB FourthFest Fireworks!

**Thursday, July 4 | 9pm**

**Field by the Rec. Ctr. | 3000 Shoreline Drive**

Wrap up the day's festivities with a fireworks spectacular launched from the field adjacent to the Recreation Center on Shoreline Drive beginning around 9:30pm.

For more details, visit [wellsbranchmud.com](http://wellsbranchmud.com) or follow on Facebook. FourthFest is a WB MUD Rec. Dept. event.

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## EXTREME CLEAN

**Saturday, July 13 • 8am-2pm**  
**13905 Thermal**

**Austin Creative Reuse**  
austincreativereuse.org/donate/donate-materials/

**Easter Seals**  
Clothing, Household Items, Furniture

**Homeless Helpings**  
austinhumanistsatwork.org/donate/what-do-we-need/

**Pet Shelter & Wildlife Rescue**  
Clean towels, pet bedding & supplies, carriers & crates,  
pet toys, food, and blue jeans (for use at Wildlife Rescue)

**Bulk Trash • Styrofoam • Metal Drop Off**  
**Limited Electronics Recycling**  
**Household Waste Collection**  
Batteries • Paint\* • Antifreeze\* ONLY  
\*MUST be in closed container.

**For a list of acceptable items, see WBNA.us.**  
**Questions? Call 512-656-0654.**

### What is a sUAS? Where and when can they fly?

### What are the rules? by Scott Cannon

If you have ever been interested in learning more about drones, then consider joining us for an upcoming meet-up. The group was started so that the members of our community can learn the truths about the sUAS industry for business and for fun. Come fly and ask any and all questions. The group is open to all who want to have fun in a safe environment while learning about flying drones.



To learn more about the meet-up please go to  
<https://scannon2.wixsite.com/wbsuas>

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**Support your Neighborhood Association**

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

Here is my check (made out to WBNA) for \$20 annual dues for 2019

I am: \_\_\_\_\_ renewing my membership \_\_\_\_\_ a new member

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I/we want to help with: \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter Delivery \_\_\_\_\_ Crime Watch \_\_\_\_\_ July 4th  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Easter Egg Hunt \_\_\_\_\_ Nat'l Night Out \_\_\_\_\_ Luminary Fest

**MAIL TO: WBNA Membership, 2104 Klattenhoff, Austin, TX. 78728**

