



# Neighborhood News

News and information for the residents of Wells Branch.  
Vol. 29, Issue 2, Spring/Summer 2021

## Travis County Sheriff's Office Town Hall

Tuesday, May 25 | 6:00-7:30pm | via ZOOM

Join the Travis County Sheriff's Office for a Virtual Wells Branch Community Town Hall Meeting Tuesday, May 25. In preparation for this meeting, the WB MUD and WBNA were asked to gather questions from the community and submit them to the Sheriff's Office to be addressed. **The Agenda for the meeting is included on page 2.** TCSO will also take questions from attendees at the end of the meeting.

Meeting ID: 972 5418 0180

Passcode: 478542

[https://zoom.us/j/97254180180?](https://zoom.us/j/97254180180?pwd=MGhoUjhnWkttemhlak9rQU9HQjkUT09)

[pwd=MGhoUjhnWkttemhlak9rQU9HQjkUT09](https://zoom.us/j/97254180180?pwd=MGhoUjhnWkttemhlak9rQU9HQjkUT09)

512-854-7786

[www.tcssheriff.org](http://www.tcssheriff.org)

[TCSOCommunityOutreach@traviscountytexas.gov](mailto:TCSOCommunityOutreach@traviscountytexas.gov)



**Have an  
amazing  
Summer!**

## 2021 Silent Auction Donations Request

Each year, the WBNA hosts a Silent Auction during the annual Fourth-Fest celebration. The auction has always been our BIG fundraiser for the year – helping to pay for all the WBNA events, as well as the meetings, candidate forums and safety demonstrations we host throughout the year. This year the auction is more important than ever because we were unable to raise any funds last year during the lock down.

The 2021 WBNA Silent Auction will be different this year. There are still COVID19 restrictions in place and the WB MUD has scaled back many of the usual 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities. Our traditional venue at the community center is unavailable. The auction will be in a hybrid format of an online model and a "pop-up" event for the final bids of July the 4<sup>th</sup>. Watch the Google Group, our website, and Facebook page for updates! And make sure and stop by after the parade for a FREE Dream Bakery cookie (while supplies last!)

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 help solicit items or volunteer to work the auction, please email us at [silentauction@wbna.us](mailto:silentauction@wbna.us).

**Thank YOU for making (and keeping) Wells Branch STRONG!**

## Inside this Issue

**It's NEVER TOO LATE to JOIN!** Without our events last year, we haven't been able to promote **MEMBERSHIP**. As you can guess, membership is even more vital to our survival than ever. There's a membership form on the back page, a link at [wbna.us](http://wbna.us) and an online Square link: <https://squareup.com/store/wbna-inc/>. It's quick and easy! Please be sure and enter a valid email address.

Business Spotlight	Library News
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Community Interest	Upcoming Events
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**WBNA Membership Renewal on Page 16.  
Please Join!**



## TCSO Town Hall Agenda

Wells Branch Neighborhood

May 25 | 6:00pm via ZOOM

**WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS | Captain Billy Poole**

**OVERVIEW OF TCSO & EAST COMMAND | Captain Willie Taylor**

**ADDRESS SUBMITTED QUESTIONS**

**OPEN CARRY LAW & LAW ENFORCEMENT DUTIES | Captain Willie Taylor**

- What are the plans (proposed requirements) for new signage related to local businesses and churches to prohibit guns in the likelihood of the passage of permit-less (constitutional) carry law?
- Can TCSO offer best practices on how to manage open carry at small businesses and churches?
- Can TCSO comment on/provide background information about how current law enforcement duties will be/have been impacted by the recent legal changes from the DA's and Mayor's office in reference to how officers manage crimes perpetrated by the homeless population?
- With the homeless camping ban in effect, this population will be forced out and may relocate into other areas in unincorporated Travis County. How can our community work most effectively with TCSO to help address this problem?

**PATROL & PUBLIC DISTURBANCES | Sergeant James Moore**

- Residents have observed officers parked at night but feel the visual of officers patrolling the streets might provide a greater deterrent to crimes of opportunity. Is greater visibility a deterrent?
- What is the current coverage of the night patrols throughout Wells Branch? Can that coverage be increased? Can foot patrols be added at night?
- Almost nightly gunshots are heard throughout Wells Branch; while some may be fireworks, not all are. Is anything being done to address this?
- What is the best way to report public disturbances such as loud/excessive, sustained noise from vehicles and homes and/or large group gatherings while they are still prohibited?

**CRIMINAL ACTIVITY | Lieutenant Alan Howard**

- When is it appropriate to make a report to TCSO and not be directed to the MUD or HOA?
- We have seen an increase in random individuals walking/driving into the neighborhood trying to open car doors and/or house doors, possible increase in foot traffic from nearby homeless population, packages stolen from front porch, etc. What does TCSO suggest for best practices to prevent or deter these actions to include mailbox break-ins and burglaries of vehicles and/or vehicle theft (entire cars or car parts)?

**TRAFFIC | Lieutenant Jason Jewert**

- How can the community change the speed limits on the main "through streets" within the community (Bratton Ln., Wells Port, Wells Branch Pkwy, Shoreline, Merriltown, etc.)?
- When will the speed limit signs and the traffic lights be enabled on the new portion of Grand Avenue Pkwy?
- What is the correct process to add speed bumps, radar signs, more crosswalks, or controlled crosswalks?
- Why aren't the parking/storage violations actively enforced on streets where "no parking signs" have been placed (notably Shoreline)?
- Can "No Truck" (commercial traffic) signs be added to residential streets, including the "through streets"?

**Q&A | COMMUNITY DIALOGUE | Captain Willie Taylor**

**ADJOURN**

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## WB Business Spotlight: Tropical Island Ice Cream

by Margaret McGhee-Sufke

There's an exciting new business in Wells Branch! Welcome to Tropical Island Ice Cream. Owner Erika Acevedo operates this family run business, joined by her husband and daughter. This cheerful little shop opened in late March of 2021. Stepping inside you are whisked away to a tropical oasis which includes 18 flavors of traditional Blue Bell ice cream and an amazing 22 flavors of Italian Ice. They serve hand-dipped cones, sundaes, shakes, smoothies and a wide array of custom made treats. They also offer made-to-order ice cream cakes for your next special occasion.

The Acevedos started the business in 2015, operating out of a single food truck. From there they added additional trucks. In 2020 they began looking for a family-friendly community where they could open a small shop. The Bratton Square center in Wells Branch fit the bill perfectly. Erika is able to work part time, spending time with her four children and four grandchildren. She loves the sense of community here in Wells Branch.

Treat yourself over the long Memorial Day weekend and stop by for a delicious frozen treat and escape to an island oasis.

***"Our mission is to make you happy!"***

**Tropical Island Ice Cream in Bratton Square**

**14735 Bratton Lane, Suite 107 | 512-898-1740**

**Follow on Facebook: @TropicalIsland2015**

**HOURS: MON-THURS 12-8pm and FRI-SAT 12-9pm**



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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

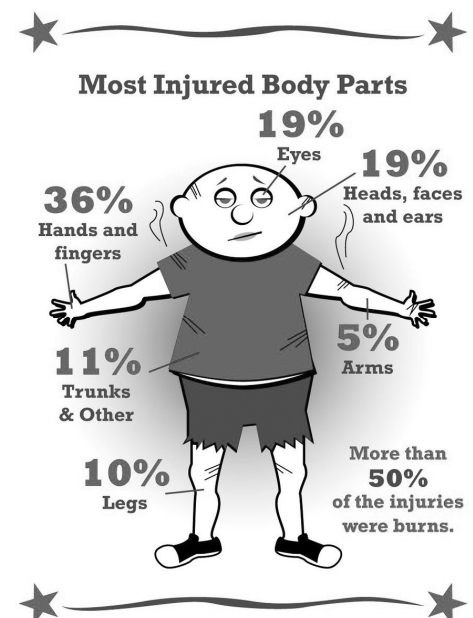
- Before the holiday, make a point to discuss fireworks safety with everyone in your family to decrease the chance of someone getting hurt.
- Never let children purchase fireworks without parents there—even older kids.
- Insist on adult supervision whenever fireworks are being lit—even for older kids. 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.



## 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>	
Weather.gov/socialmedia Weather.gov/heat		@SacramentoOES SacramentoReady.org		

## Register for Central Texas Emergency Warnings

by Lisa Block, Travis County PIO

Register your cell phone, phone landline and/or email address to receive emergency alerts for your specific neighborhood at **WarnCentralTexas.org**. Contact information, including phone numbers and email addresses, is only used for emergency and major incident notification.

**WarnCentralTexas.org** serves Bastrop, Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Fayette, Hays, Lee, Llano, Travis and Williamson Counties. A nice feature of the emergency notification system, **WarnCentralTexas.org**, is that people can register several addresses for warnings, so if you have loved ones at a location separate from your home, you can also receive emergency notification for their location.



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## WB Photo Club Update by Margaret Sufke

The WB Photo Club has been on "pandemic pause" since last spring. Several individual members have continued to contribute to community by sharing images on the various WBNA sites and Facebook pages. These contributions have been a real bright spot for everyone. Once the WB MUD re-opens all the facilities (date TBA) and meetings are allowed, we will have a "kick start session" and return to our standing monthly meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

## WBNA 2022 Community Calendar Contest

**Calling all WB photographers!** We now have an opportunity to showcase the backlog of your recent and past photos. It's back! The WBNA is hosting the Wells Branch 2022 Community Calendar Photo Contest.

Our tentative theme is "Through the Eyes of Wells Branch". This year's contest will be in a more socially distanced format, but with a new public twist. Because the WB Rec. Center is still not fully open to the public, we are moving the gallery

to the Community Center at KF Park and the contest entries will be viewable from the **outside**, being mounted from the inside along the large glass windows facing the courtyard. The images will also be hosted digitally with an online voting system with an alternative option to email your choices.

At the time of publication the logistics were still being finalized. Please visit [wbna.us/community/calendar-contest/](http://wbna.us/community/calendar-contest/) for more information. Questions? Contact Margaret Sufke, Calendar Contest Coordinator, at [mmsufke@gmail.com](mailto:mmsufke@gmail.com) or 512-341-0428.

## WB Community Library Offers New Seed Exchange for WB Gardeners

by Brittany Patrick, Adult Services Librarian

The Wells Branch Library is collaborating with Central Texas Seed Savers to offer a new no-cost program for local gardeners! The Wells Branch Seed Exchange is a free community resource that aims to bring the joy of gardening to everyone in our community while also helping to preserve local seed varieties.

Neighbors can drop by the library during open hours to select seed packets provided by Seed Savers volunteers. It's the perfect way for beginners to start their first garden or for experienced gardeners to try out new varieties! Donations of seeds from your best-producing plants are appreciated and will help us keep the Exchange going for seasons to come.

The Seed Exchange is open to everyone and does not require a library card. View our current stock and find gardening & seed saving guides at [www.wblibrary.org/library-of-things/seed-exchange](http://www.wblibrary.org/library-of-things/seed-exchange).



## Welcome Back!

### Numbers to know

April statistics of existing home sales in Wells Branch, comparing our last stats from January '21 to April '21  
According to the ACTRIS\* MLS system:

January	1-Story Homes	April
\$236 = Median PPSF**		\$291 = Median PPSF**
6 = Homes Closed		6 = Homes Closed
8 = Avg DOM**		6 = Avg DOM**

January	2-Story Homes	April
\$231 = Median PPSF**		\$240 = Median PPSF**
2 = Homes Closed		5 = Homes Closed
5 = Avg DOM**		3 = Avg DOM**

\*Austin Central TX Information System, homes closed. E-mail Pam for Full Stat Sheet \*\*PPSF=price per Sq Ft/DOM=Days on Mkt

### What does this mean?

There are currently 6 active properties on the market in Wells Branch (as of 5/17/21, not including the newer areas beyond Cadoz/Grand Ave. extensions) and there are 11 properties under contract. Even though more properties seem to be coming available, they are going off market almost as quickly as they are going on the market, we still have a HUGE inventory shortage.

### INTEREST RATES ARE AT HISTORIC LOWS!

This means buyers have more buying power, YOU have more buying power on your next home -OR- if you closed on a home in 2020 or prior, there's a good chance you could save money by refinancing to a lower interest rate. I have a great list of lenders that would be happy to help!

### Homes are getting THOUSANDS over asking!

There's never a guarantee, but the current inventory shortage combined with other factors has resulted in homes going for crazy amounts over asking, IE: a home in Round Rock received 97 offers and sold for \$171k over asking!

Having an experienced agent that knows how to handle the intricacies of that many offers and is able to assist you in determining the offers that have the highest chance of getting to the closing table is crucial.

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# WB MUD Summertime Events

As the world works toward returning to normal, events are slowly but surely returning to Wells Branch, and it's shaping up to be a summer filled with fun! While the return of these events are exciting for everyone, we still ask that all residents take the appropriate COVID precautions by following the current CDC and local health authority guidelines. **Happy Summer!**

For details about each event, registration, and updates or possible changes, please visit [wellsbranchmud.com/events](http://wellsbranchmud.com/events).

## Dive-In Movies

**KF Pool | 2106 Klattenhoff Drive**

Dive-In Movies are back at the Katherine Fleischer Pool! Pre-registration is required for these events and spaces are limited. No floatation devices will be permitted. COVID safety protocols will be implemented in accordance with local guidelines. Rec. Tag required. Registration coming soon on ActiveNet.

**June 11 | 8:30pm | Tom and Jerry: The Movie (PG)**

**July 9 | 8:30pm | Pirates of the Caribbean (PG-13)**

**August 13 | 8:30pm | Moana (PG)**

## Movies in the Park

**WB MUD Soccer Complex | 3908 Shoreline Drive**

Grab the blankets and bug spray and kick back and enjoy the show, because Movies in the Park is back! Due to social distancing, Movies in the Park will be hosted at the Wells Branch Soccer Complex this year. This event is FREE, however, pre-registration is required and spaces are limited. Registration coming soon on ActiveNet.

**June 25 | 8:30pm | Onward (PG)**

**July 23 | 8:30pm | Shrek (PG)**

## Bulk Trash and Recycling

**8:00 am - 2:00 pm | 13905 Thermal Drive**

**Saturday, June 12 | Saturday, July 10**

**Saturday, August 14 | Saturday, September 11**

NO staff assistance with unloading. Extreme Clean has been discontinued until further notice.

WB MUD is currently offering monthly bulk trash drop-off on the second Saturday of each month, but new procedures and guidelines are in place. Be sure to read them before attending: [wellsbranchmud.com/bulktrash](http://wellsbranchmud.com/bulktrash)

## It's My Park Day Events! —and—

## Summer & Fall Disc Golf Tournament Schedule

Please see page 11

## Fourth Fest

**July 4 • All Day!**

**2106 Klattenhoff Drive/3908 Shoreline Drive**

One of the most exciting comebacks is the much anticipated FourthFest! July 4, Wells Branch will host a parade in the morning that will feature floats and festivities that the neighborhood will be able to see along the way, keeping in mind to stay socially distanced as they enjoy the displays. If you'd like to enter a float in the parade, please contact the MUD via (512)251-9814 or [rec@wellsbranchmud.com](mailto:rec@wellsbranchmud.com). Participants will not be allowed to throw anything (candy, beads, etc.) from the floats.

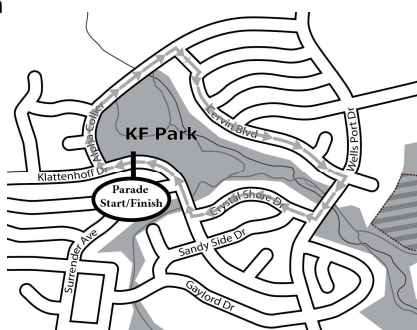
### 2021 Parade Route (Departs at 10am)

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



Although there will be no vendors, open swim, or activities in the park during the day, Wells Branch MUD will host a COVID-safe summer concert (temporarily hosted at the Soccer Complex to maintain social distancing), and at dusk will display their annual dazzling fireworks show.

While the concert is free, pre-registration will be required via ActiveNet.

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. **Details regarding parking and access will be available at [wellsbranchmud.com](http://wellsbranchmud.com) prior to the event.**

Plan to check the website for any changes before you leave for the fireworks, come early, bring your blankets, chairs, coolers and bug spray. **And, don't forget to clear your area and pick up your trash when you leave. Thank you!**

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**Catherine & Chris Carby**



## Summer Safety Reminders

*Summertime is here and the weather is beautiful. Unfortunately, this wonderful weather sometimes causes us to forget about the security of our belong-*

*ings. When the weather is nice, we tend to open windows and doors to take advantage of the sunshine and warm breeze. It is very important to remember that everything you open must be re-secured. Summer is a great time in Wells Branch - keep yourself and your property safe this summer by following the suggestions in this article.*

*~ Major Craig Smith, Travis County Sheriff's Office*

Most of the crimes around Wells Branch are crimes of opportunity and yes, we've seen an increase the last several months as have **ALL** surrounding areas. Unfortunately, those types of crime tend to increase as the weather gets warmer. Make that extra effort to NOT become a victim.

- Take your keys.
- Lock your car.
- Don't leave anything of value in plain sight. Better yet, take it in the house.
- Keep your garage doors closed; do not leave an open garage unattended.
- Always lock the inside garage door.
- If you park your car in the driveway or on the street, make sure you take the remote garage door opener in with you. A garage door opener gives instant protected access to your home and your belongings.
- Park in the garage, or keep your driveway well-lit at night.
- Padlock your gates.
- Check your mail every single day.
- Be aware of your surroundings at all times.
- When leaving your home, pay close attention to anything that doesn't look right.
- Never put yourself at risk.
- Meet your immediate neighbors and trade contact information.
- Report any street light outages immediately. Contact info below.

Call 9-1-1 **IMMEDIATELY** if you see **ANYTHING** suspicious. Many of the break-ins we've suffered could have been prevented. The Sheriff's Office can't be everywhere all the time. They rely on neighbors to be their eyes and ears in their absence and to alert them to dangerous situations. Don't stop to ask a friend, the Google Group, Facebook or the folks on Nextdoor. **Call 9-1-1 FIRST**, then share with your neighbors. Time is of the essence. If you're not sure if it's an emergency - **DON'T WORRY** - the dispatcher will prioritize the call. **Never be afraid to call!** Travis County would much rather answer a false alarm than deal with a tragedy later. If it doesn't feel right, it probably isn't - **CALL!**

**A NOTE ABOUT 3-1-1: In short, DON'T USE IT to report crimes.** 3-1-1 is a City of Austin service and we're in the county. While you would eventually be routed to the correct entity, it's always best (and quickest) to call 9-1-1 and tell them you're in Travis County. If you need to report a crime that's already taken place (not in progress), you may call the non-emergency number at 512-974-0845 and press 3 to be connected, file a report online <https://tcsheriff.org/community/file-a-report>, or call 9-1-1 and they'll route your call appropriately. 3-1-1 may be used to report street light outages for Austin Energy lights (not Oncor) and Animal Control if it's a non-emergency. **If you're in need of immediate assistance, always call 9-1-1.** In addition, 3-1-1 does not work with some cell carriers when dialed from outside the city limits. In this case, use 512-974-2000 to reach a 3-1-1 operator.

To report Oncor Street Light Outages, visit: <https://www.oncorstreetlight.com/> for an interactive map.

## Vacation Safety Tips

- Let a neighbor and/or block captain know you'll be out of town and when you'll return. They should have the following: your emergency contact information; contact information for anyone with access to your house (pet sitter, etc.); when they should be expected; what they look like and a description of their vehicle(s).
- Let only those who **NEED** to know, know when you are going out of town.
- **Don't share vacation plans OR photos on social media.**
- Arrange to have your lawn cared for if you are going to be away.
- Don't hide keys under doormats, flowerpots or in similar places.
- Put your lights, stereo and/or TV on timers.
- Leave a car in the driveway or ask a neighbor to park in it.
- Don't cancel your paper or mail deliveries; ask that your neighbor pick them up every day.
- Leave a key with a friend or neighbor; ask that the house be checked at regular intervals.
- Keep your house well lit at night (backyard included) with a motion sensor or photocell activated light.
- Store all your valuables.
- Consider asking friends or relatives to live in your home while you are away.
- Ask your neighbor to put trash in your trashcan and to put it out for collection and away when they put theirs away.

**File a Close Patrol Request.** The filing of this form alerts patrolling officers so that they may pay close attention to one's residence. To do so: Contact the Travis County Sheriff's Office at 512-854-9721. Ask to make a Close Patrol Request. You will be asked for information on those caring for your home while you're away: make and model of their vehicles, name, description and times they should be at your home.

## Keepin' it Chill at the Grill

Whether during Memorial Day weekend or the high heat of summer, grilling is a popular way to celebrate the season in Central Texas. But before you light it up, be sure you know how to keep your family and guests safe around a grill!



### **ALL AROUND SAFETY — Follow these basics for all gas, charcoal, and wood-burning grills:**

Never grill under a covered patio, pavilion, tent, or inside a garage.

Keep your grill clean. Remove grease or fat drippings from the grate and the trays below.

Only use grills at least 10 feet from anything that can burn, including deck railing, fences, tree branches, bushes, homes, and eaves.

Don't leave a grill unattended. Set a timer so you don't forget the grill is lit. If you ever have to briefly walk away, take something with you like a spatula as a reminder to return quickly.

Keep any children and pets at least 3 feet away from the grill. Restrict any horseplay.

Always keep all types of lighter fluid well out of reach of children and away from heat sources.

If you live in an apartment complex in the Travis County

ESD #2 community including Wells Branch, open-flame grills are strictly forbidden in and around the units; they cannot be stored or used within 10 feet of any apartment building.

### **CHARCOAL GRILLS**

If you use a starter fluid, only use CHARCOAL starter fluid. Once the fire is going, never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquid to the fire.

When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before removing them or throwing them away. They must cool in a metal container.

### **GAS GRILLS**

Make sure the lid is open before lighting a gas grill, to prevent gas buildup.

If the flame goes out while cooking, turn the grill and the gas off. Wait at least 15 minutes before re-lighting it.

If it's been a few months since you used your grill, check the gas tank hose for leaks. Apply a light soap and water solution to the hose; a propane leak will release bubbles. If you find a leak either by a smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off both the gas tank and the grill. If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional. If the leak doesn't stop, call 9-1-1. If you smell gas while cooking with a grill, immediately get away from the grill, and call 9-1-1.

Do not try to move the grill.

**Article courtesy of Travis County ESD #2**

**[www.PflugervilleFire.org](http://www.PflugervilleFire.org)**



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*Our Family Has Been Caring For Your Family Since 1989.*

## Wells Branch MUD

### 3rd Annual Youth Disc Golf Tournament

Sunday, June 6, 2021 • 1:00-4:30pm

Wells Branch MUD Parks & Recreation is hosting its 3rd Youth Disc Golf Tournament. Registration is only \$10, and participants will receive TWO custom-stamped discs with their registration. It's a great value and loads of fun!

Youth will compete in age based divisions with winners receiving trophies.

#### Age Divisions:

- 6 and under
- 7-8 yrs
- 9-10 yrs
- 11-12 yrs
- 13-15 yrs
- 16-18 yrs

Wells Branch MUD has online registration for the Youth Tournament at <https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/wellsbranchmud/activity/search/detail/5058>. Please register before 5:00pm, June 4.

—You must create a user account in the system before you can register your youth for the event. This may take a day for the approval to be processed, so log on now!



#### Event Schedule

Flex Tee-Times starting at 1 pm with 10 minute intervals between groups. Please arrive no earlier than 5 minutes before your tee-time.

You will receive an email from the event organizer with information about your dedicated tee-off time and electronic scorecard.

To avoid large gatherings, there will not be a players meeting before or after the event.

#### Event Details

Wells Branch MUD is continuing to follow the guidelines of all national, state, and local health authorities. By registering for this event, you are agreeing to the following guidelines:

- Masks will be required when participants not actively playing the course.
- Participants shall remain 6 feet apart.
- Participants and spectators shall avoid congregating in any area (parking lot, practice baskets, bathroom areas, staffing area, etc.).
- Spectators shall wear masks at all times.
- Participants shall avoid sharing and touching other's personal belongings.
- Participants are encouraged to sanitize their hands and equipment before and after the event.



# BUY NOTHING PROJECT

*Give. Ask. Gratitude.*

[www.buynothingproject.org](http://www.buynothingproject.org)

**What do we get when we give?** by Erin Ramsey, WB Neighbor & BNG Admin

If you had asked me 4 years ago what I would possibly get out

of starting a “Buy Nothing Project” group in our neighborhood, my answer probably would not have been “my son’s favorite toy fire truck”. I wouldn’t have guessed I would be able to answer “the beautiful credenza in our front hallway” or “a beloved set of earrings” or even “a Kn95 mask during a pandemic”. And I definitely, completely, 100% would not have answered: “a 6-foot-tall adult-sized shark costume”.

But there I was, August of 2020, jumping around the back of a pick-up truck decorated with paper fish and blue streamers, sweating my fins off, while I tried to dance to a remix of “Baby Shark” blasting out of the cab’s speakers. It is very hot inside adult-sized shark costumes, let me tell you. It should have been my daughter’s first week of Elementary school, but Covid had turned life upside down. Instead of meeting new friends in fresh classrooms, we were having a School Supply Pick-Up Parade, and parents had been asked to decorate their cars to get students excited for this new world of virtual learning and Zoom calls. The theme was “We Swim Together”; the school mascot, a dolphin. “Wouldn’t it be funny,” I had idly asked my husband, “if we went all out on the school spirit? I wonder if anyone in Buy Nothing has a dolphin costume?”

I only had to ask. This is how a Buy Nothing Project group works, after all: these small, hyper-local gift economies organized on Facebook are safe places where neighbors can ask for whatever they need or want, and everything is given freely. Within 30 minutes, someone had offered up a narwhal onesie. Another neighbor thought she might have the makings of a clownfish costume, would that work? Neighbors I had never met in person offered paint pens to draw on our vehicle windows and streamers to decorate our truck bed. But it was generous Anthony Cruz who offered up the shark costume, without us ever having exchanged two sentences of conversation together.

Since it was a pandemic, and we were all going a little stir crazy, I took the opportunity (and the gifts!). I cannot dance, it must be said. But my daughter, too young to be embarrassed by me yet, shimmied gleefully beside me in her favorite mermaid costume, and teachers and parents we didn’t even know came over to take socially distant photos and thank us for adding joy to their day. It was a bright, wonderful memory in an otherwise bleak start to the school year. None of it would have been possible without the generosity of my neighbors in our Wells Branch/Willow Run/Northridge Acres Buy Nothing Project Group.

So what did I think I would get from volunteering to start up our local group, way back in 2017? The purpose of the Buy Nothing Project is to strengthen relationships between neighbors and build community. To reduce, reuse, and recycle. To rethink consumption. Let’s be honest though, I have children that grow like weeds and go through clothing like moths. The overall mission sounded great, but “getting free stuff” was the big draw! I could not have foreseen both the benevolence of our neighbors, the camaraderie that would build around the offering of “free stuff”... and the ripples of joy that spread outward from each generous gift to affect us all.

3.5 years and one pandemic later, our group is 1,200 members strong and counting, with an average of 30 posts a day. Those posts ask for gifts, express gratitude, and gift everything from groceries to garden tools. I have lost count of the number of birthday cakes that have been lovingly hand-made for neighborhood kids, sometimes the night before said birthday, sometimes by folks whose own kids are long grown! We’ve had homework help offered and old recipes translated. More meal trains than I can keep track of have deposited warm, made from scratch food on the doorstep of our fellow community members who may be grieving or ill or recovering from surgery.

During the pandemic, neighbors have rallied to support folks who have lost jobs or even loved ones from Covid. There have been small acts of kindness, like fetching medicine and delivering toilet paper. Then there are moments when neighbors have moved mountains. In January, member Britt Kilpatrick asked for help on behalf of a Wells Branch family that was forced into homelessness. “Our group came together, and in the matter of a day, furnished their entire place and more! You all made it possible for them to not just have an apartment, but a home,” she posted on move-in day, along with photos of the piles of home goods that had poured in, and a happy picture of the family in their new place. These are the moments that fuel the group, not the lure of a shiny new gift. “My heart feels so full knowing I live in a community where we can make this possible,” she wrote, and I couldn’t agree more. As member Kathy Scott-Mejia put it, “It restores my faith in humanity, that people are willing to give and to help, receiving nothing in return”.

Amid our recent ice storm, group members sourced water, food, and even plumbing tools from each other, and collected enough to donate to those in surrounding neighborhoods, including a housing development with many seniors. When I think about what I have gotten from my time with our Buy Nothing Project group, these selfless acts and kindhearted gestures are the memories I treasure, that give me hope and faith and love for my community that will last much longer than the tangible “things”. Though we hope the shark costume lasts a long, long time.

*— The Buy Nothing Project is a global movement that offers people a way to give, receive, share, and lend to their neighbors while fostering local community. By using Facebook as a platform, the movement has created hundreds of hyper-local groups of “gift economies” all over the world, where neighbors are encouraged to give freely and share creatively.*

*Members may post anything they would like to give away, lend, or share among their neighbors. Everyone is encouraged to ask for anything they’d like to receive for free or borrow. Buying, selling, trades, or bartering are not allowed. Because members “give where they live” and can only join one Buy Nothing Group at a time, we believe our groups strengthen the social fabric of their communities, and place value on the wealth of personal, human connections and trust between neighbors.*

*You can find the group on Facebook, by searching “Buy Nothing Wells Branch/Willow Run/Northridge Acres, TX”. Members must be over 21 years old and live within the boundaries of the group to join, or an admin can help connect you with the local group for your particular neighborhood.*





Join your fellow park lovers as we give back at the Wells Branch Disc Golf Course and Mills Pond!

**There are two It's My Park Day projects in Wells Branch on June 12.** It's a great way to volunteer to help keep the Wells branch greenbelt looking beautiful. Volunteers who sign up on the Austin Parks Foundation website not only get the satisfaction of giving back, but an AWESOME It's My Park Day t-shirt designed by local artists Kendrick Rudolph and Genevieve Bentz as well.

### Tree Planting and Litter Pickup at the WB Disc Golf Course (max 25 participants)

Led by Brian Litke

Saturday, June 12 | 9:00am - noon

**Sign up here:** <https://austinparks.givepulse.com/event/232818-Wells-Branch-Disc-Golf-Course-Its-My-Park-Day-Spring>

Volunteers will spread mulch on trails and around trees, plant new trees and low-story plants, and pick up litter. Meet at the kiosk by the start of the disc golf course on Owen Tech Blvd. across from Whataburger. We'll get started at 9:00am.

### Mills Pond and Creek Clean Up (max 40 participants)

Led by Katie Hutcheson

Saturday, June 12 | 9:30am - noon

**Sign up here:** <https://austinparks.givepulse.com/event/232817-Wells-Branch-Butterfly-Garden-Its-My-Park-Day-Spring>

Volunteers will spend the morning cleaning up the pond and creek beds along the Wells Branch trail! Meet at the pond and get started right at 9:30am. Thank you so much for joining us on It's My Park Day!

**All Participants:** WB MUD will provide tools and gloves but **PLEASE BRING YOUR MASK AND WATER BOTTLE.**

In light of the current COVID pandemic we have worked with our partners at Parks and Rec to implement the following procedures. Project registration will be very limited so please only register if you are certain you can participate, and if something changes between registration and the event, please let us know so we can open that spot back up.

**Spots are limited so register soon!**



Find us on:  
**facebook®**

## Mark Your Calendars!

### Upcoming Disc Golf Tournaments by Brian Litke

#### 3rd Annual Wells Branch Youth Disc Golf Tournament (Ages 18 and under) See page 9 for details.

Sunday, June 6, 2021 | 1:00pm - 4:30pm

\$10 entry fee, register online at:

<https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/wellsbranchmud/activity/search/detail/5058>

Youth participants get 2 custom discs with their entry fee.

Trophies for boys and girls age-based divisions: 6 and under, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-15, 16-18

#### 8th Annual WB Disc Golf Tournament (all ages)

Saturday, July 24, 2021 | 9:30am - 1:30pm

\$15 entry fee, registration opening soon on the Wells Branch MUD website

Participants get a custom disc with their entry fee.

Trophies for male and female age-based divisions

#### 2nd Annual Wells Branch Women's Open

Saturday, September 25, 2021 | 10:00am - 2:00pm

\$25 entry fee, register online at

[https://www.discgolfscene.com/tournaments/2nd\\_Annual\\_Wells\\_Branch\\_Womens\\_Open\\_2021](https://www.discgolfscene.com/tournaments/2nd_Annual_Wells_Branch_Womens_Open_2021)

Participants get a custom disc with their entry fee.

Trophies for winners of skill-based divisions.

Last year, 49 women participate in this event!

#### 7th Annual Day of Disc Golf for Veterans

Saturday, November 6, 2021 from 2:00 - 5:00pm

**FREE for veterans.** \$15 entry fee for supporters

Participants get a custom disc with their entry fee.



The longer you wait, the higher it goes...and the more dangerous it becomes.

Keep your pets safe - leave them at home.

Visit [www.avma.org/petsincars](http://www.avma.org/petsincars)



## Driveway Heartbeat by Jon Klekman

It's been a little over a year since the WHO declared COVID-19 a global pandemic and a year since our city and local government cancelled one of the biggest events in music, SXSW. Along with cancellations of high-profile music and arts events, lower profile regular events at clubs, bars and restaurants were also cancelled. This meant a loss of business for artists, venues and surrounding businesses. When reality set in that my Jazz group wouldn't have a safe place to play live for the foreseeable future, I originally set up rehearsals and sessions in my backyard. We would arrange ourselves in a circle and the music would waft to all sides - our yard intersects with 4 other yards directly. After a couple of weeks our neighbors started setting up chairs for listening in their own yards, using the music to accompany brunches and meals and we would get applause.

I can't quite take credit for what was going to happen next. My wife came up with the idea that since it was going over so well and offering an escape and much needed outlet for people, why not bring the music to the front of the house in the driveway? That was our next logical step—people weary from a pandemic with no formal activities to attend—let's give them a concert experience in my yard, which happens to have grassy sitting areas on each side of the driveway (stage). I called up my regular bandmates including trombonist, Andre Hayward- who has worked with Wynton Marsalis (Jazz at Lincoln Center), Duke Ellington Band and San Francisco Jazz Project and asked him if he wanted to join us. He was excited to join and continue our partnership—Andre and I have in playing music together for public and non-profit over the past several years. The shows on the driveway were magical—the horn sections I invited would be a rotating cast of players including some of our very own Wells Branch residents. Families, passersby, joggers, etc. would come by to sit and relax and safely interact with music and the fellowship it brings. As the events progressed week over week last summer, I realized I could use them to showcase our local Wells Branch small businesses and I would invite a guest small business—those included our very own **Little Kisses Bakery** ([www.littlekissesbakery.com](http://www.littlekissesbakery.com)), and **Dream Bakery** ([www.dreambakery.com](http://www.dreambakery.com)) as well as some artists selling their wares. I also realized that the event might be a nice place to invite our local "Volunteer Deputy Registrars (VDR's) to be available as a resource to register people to vote. They didn't have that much work because as it turns out Wells Branch is extremely well registered! The driveway became a hub of sorts and a great destination for our community to be safe (all shows mandated masking and social distance) and feel normal. Some of my greatest joys were seeing children dancing to the music and being exposed to the arts.

We took a break on these events late fall into the winter. We scheduled a spring show on March 7 which was livestreamed by our very own Wells Branch residents, Scott & Jessica Cannon and their media company ([www.cannonlightmedia.com](http://www.cannonlightmedia.com)). Since we are moving in the right direction and live public music opportunities have returned to Austin, future driveway shows will be one off events, vs. ongoing series. Putting these shows on solidified my feeling that Wells Branch is a unique place with so much heart and spirit. We are a self-sustaining organism, with businesses, talents and kindness all waiting to be shared. My heart is here in Wells Branch, in our driveway and with our residents. [www.jonbassjon.com](http://www.jonbassjon.com)—Official Website for Jon Klekman Trio/Quartet

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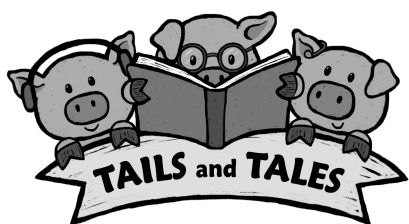


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*Contact-Free Services, including limited computer appointments, are available after Grab & Go Hours.*



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## IN PERSON PROGRAMS

All programs require registration and attendees must follow safety protocols. Programs will be outside on the porch. Register at [wblibrary.eventbrite.com](http://wblibrary.eventbrite.com).

Wednesdays at 3:30pm (age 5+) Lego Lab

6/5 at 9:00am & 10:30am Summer Reading Kickoff:  
Music with Ms. Ariel Concert

6/9 & 7/14 at 6:00pm Knit and crochet group

6/14 at 5:30pm (age 5-10) & 6:45pm (age 8+) Young  
Rembrandts Art Class

6/24 at 9:00am & 10:30am Silly Sparkles Show

6/30 at 6:00pm (age 5+) Kool aid dying (messy)

7/5 at 5:30pm (age 5-10) & 6:45pm (age 8+) Young  
Rembrandts Art Class

7/2 at 10:00am Japanese Shinto Dance Performance

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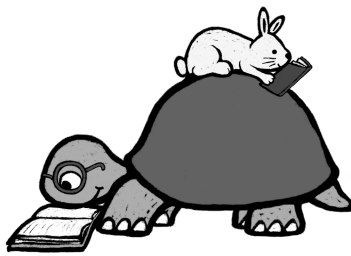
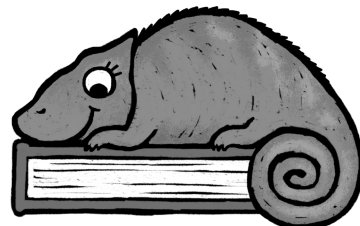
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prep, auto repair, and more with our databases.



To see everything happening  
at the library, check out our  
website and event calendar at  
**WBLIBRARY.ORG.**



## The People's Poop

by Jon Klekman, WBNA Board Member

I wanted to paint a quick picture for my fellow neighbors. You wake up craving a serene walk on one of Wells Branch's beautiful trails—you take a lunch break from your work from home "room"—maybe you want to hit the part of the trail that meanders past the wood duck at Mills Pond, or past the Horned Owl family—or go scouting for some turtles in the creek—and then... squish, smooosh, sliiiiide. Crap! On my foot, all over my shoe. You are walking with your family through our neighborhoods admiring the landscaping efforts of our talented garden guilders, perhaps you have your dog with you and he/she pulls you to find just the right spot to relieve themselves... and then squish, smooooosh, sliiiiide. Shoes covered in dog poop. Itching to get it off the shoe, you do the dance (you know the one) where you scrape the poop on the sidewalk and rid yourself of this nuisance. It turns out you are now spreading out the mess and we now have a potential health issue. You see, there is some good science showing that animal waste may contain harmful organisms: Giardia, Salmonella, that can be transmitted to humans. In addition, stormwater takes all those pet gifts and carries pollutants into our waterways. So many folks in the District are doing excellent work with their pets (please don't stop), but there is so much room for improvement.

Before you step out of the house, check to make sure you have bags to pick up after your pet. Put a bag holder on your leash. If you see something along the way and it's not yours, please consider picking it up and throwing it away.

**Together as a community we can keep our shared spaces beautiful and our neighbors healthy.**

*I picked up a bag's worth yesterday—your turn.*

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

Biometric authentication. What a mouthful! Simply put, biometrics are measurements and calculations based on individual human characteristics. Authentication, when used in the context of access to computer systems and much more, can include anything from passwords, to figuring out a "I am not a robot" CAPTCHA puzzle to using your iris ala Jack Bauer to open a door at a secure location. Put these two ideas together and you have your unique characteristics, pieces of who you are, being used to do everything from screening the crowds at the Superbowl for terrorists through facial recognition to making a purchase at Whole Foods via the use of your palm print. If this sounds far-fetched, look around you, these things and more are already happening.

In 1985, I went to DePaul University to study computer science at the ripe old age of 33 and mainframe computers were beginning to be used to develop neural networks, software that could learn and hopefully mimic human intelligence eventually. At that time, computers could identify a coffee cup if it were sitting on a perfectly level surface. Tilt it only a little and artificial intelligence had no clue what it was. How far we have come, with smart phones being unlocked with a glance at our faces, our laptops being opened with a fingerprint and Alexa, Siri and Google knowing us and all of our daily routines by matching our unique voiceprints.

The advantages? Our logins can be more secure, faster and convenient. You may forget a password, but you always have your fingers, eyes and voice with you. This biometric data is hard to spoof or fake. Checkouts at stores with a scan of your hand are safer than credit cards which can be lost or stolen.

Disadvantages? It is quite costly to add it into existing systems. A password can be reset if you are hacked. If your biometric data is hacked, what do you do? Our ever-diminishing privacy will be decreased even more as additional ways are developed for us to be tracked. And there is always the chance we will be confused with someone else since no system is perfect.

Technology is neither good nor evil intrinsically. Time will tell whether these advances in security will enrich our lives or become a nightmare beyond anything Orwell could have conjured up.

dave@mrpcaustin.com | mrpcaustin.com | 512-323-5343

## New WBNA Board Positions

We're excited to announce the new Wells Branch Neighborhood Association Board! We look forward to serving you! Contact us at [info@wbna.us](mailto:info@wbna.us).

Margaret McGhee-Sufke, President

Donna Malone, Vice President

Lara Bennett, Secretary

Juli Thatcher, Treasurer

Darci Marter, Jon Klekman, and Pamela Woodward, Members-at-Large

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# HOA/POA



## MUD, HOA, POA, WBNA – WTH?

**Somebody tell me the difference, PLEASE!!!**

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

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

### Are you confused yet?

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

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

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

The mission statement of Wells Branch MUD is as follows:

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

**HOA/POA (Home Owners Association/Property Owners Association)** – Generally speaking, an HOA/POA is a membership of homeowners that is responsible for the enforcement of the Covenant Conditions and Restrictions for the properties in their immediate subdivision. There are some exceptions for "In-District" vs. "Out-of-District". Many of the Associations also maintain the landscaping and fences in the common areas of, once again, their immediate neighborhood. The goal of an HOA/POA is to enhance the appearance of its neighborhood and maintain property val-

ues. Dues paid to an HOA/POA, go for Covenant or Deed Restriction enforcement and maintenance of the common areas of the subdivision.

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

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

"Out-of-District" HOAs/POAs are responsible for enforcement of violations of the Covenants and Deed Restrictions. There are six HOAs or POAs in Wells Branch. If you live in Bratton Glen, Bratton Hill, Brattonwood, Brookside, Stoneridge or The Lake at Wells Branch, you live in an area with an HOA or POA. There are links to each of these HOAs/POAs along with property management information on our website: [www.wbna.us](http://www.wbna.us) at the very bottom of each page.

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

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

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

**WBNA – Wells Branch Neighborhood Association:** The Wells Branch Neighborhood Association is a social/civic organization that includes all addresses in Wells Branch whether "In-District" or "Out-of-District". Our boundaries extend south to Howard Lane, east to I35, north to Grand Avenue and west to Burnet Road/1325. We are NOT a governing body and do not collect taxes. We have no legal right to enforce anything. Membership dues, \$20 per year per household, are optional, but GREATLY appreciated.

The WBNA publishes the *Neighborhood News* six times a year. Each issue is hand delivered to every house in Wells Branch, all 3,366, by volunteers, distributed to 21 apartment complexes, area businesses and of course, the Library and the Rec. Center. In addition to this, in non-COVID years, we put on the Easter Egg Hunt each year, hold a Silent Auction

*(continued on page 16)*



local fresh roasted

# COFFEE

A Wells Branch Family Owned Business!

Bring this ad in for:

## TRIPLE STAMPS!



Signature Lattes  
Espresso  
Butter Coffee  
**Nitro Cold Brew**  
**Power Smoothies**  
Croissants  
Bagels & more

Ad is good for only one customer and must be turned in to barista at time of stamps.




(continued from page 15)

fundraiser in the CC during FourthFest, host National Night Out for the neighborhood, actively participate in Halloween Trunk-or-Treat and host the Children's Craft Activities during Luminary Fest in December. WBNA also hosts several meetings throughout the year featuring a variety of topics including safety, candidate forums, school bonds, and housing projects. Our website, WBNA.us posts neighborhood events, news, and information resources. We also maintain a Facebook page with photos from just about every WB event for the last several years. We encourage everyone to "Like" our page to receive updates and reminders on events in Wells Branch. The WBNA relies on dues, donations and advertising to fund our endeavors with the purpose of keeping the residents of Wells Branch informed and facilitating community spirit. We have a board consisting of seven officers who are elected to two year terms by a majority of WBNA members. Elections are held each year for 3 or 4 board members per election (even places in even years, odd in odd years.)

We are strictly a volunteer-run organization.

#### In short:

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

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

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

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

*Together, we all make Wells Branch one of the most desirable neighborhoods in which to live and raise a family!*



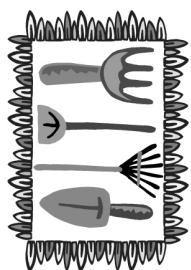
### Job Openings Available!

The Wells Branch MUD is now hiring for the following positions:

- Summer Day Camp Counselor
- Lifeguard

For more information, please visit:

<http://wellsbranchmud.com/services/human-resources>



### Garden Guild News

by Heather Johnson

The Wells Branch Garden Guild is holding an online seed and plant exchange on the Wells Branch Garden Guild Facebook page. Please feel free to join!

#### OFFICE USE ONLY

#### Support your Neighborhood Association

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ by joining the WBNA and continue to make Wells Branch great!

Check: \_\_\_\_\_ Here is my check (made out to WBNA) for \$20 annual dues for 2021.

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

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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

I/we want to help with: \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter Delivery \_\_\_\_\_ Crime Watch \_\_\_\_\_ July 4th

\_\_\_\_\_ Easter Egg Hunt \_\_\_\_\_ Nat'l Night Out \_\_\_\_\_ Luminary Fest

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

