



Neighborhood News

News and information for the residents of Wells Branch
Vol. 31, Issue 2, Spring 2023

WBNA Easter Egg Hunt Extravaganza!

Saturday, April 8 | 10:30am | Come Early!

The Homestead at KF Park | 2106 Klattenoff Drive

Hop into Spring! Join your friends, neighbors and The Easter Bunny, himself, at the annual Wells Branch Easter Egg Hunt. "Hunts" will be by age group and begin at 10:30am. Plan to come early and visit with the Easter Bunny or have fun at our craft table.

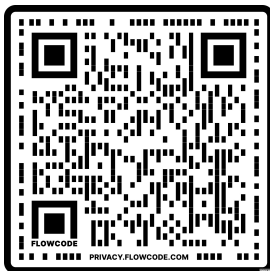
Please review the event guidelines below:

This is a community event and **ALL Wells Branch residents and their invited guests are welcome.** We want to remind everyone to be respectful and allow all of the children to have enough space and time to safely collect eggs. No yelling, stealing eggs, reaching under the tape and filling baskets before we start, or busting down the tape and charging ahead before your age group is called. We need parents to set the example. **ONE parent will be allowed in to help with the two youngest age groups (0-18mos & 18mos-3yrs.) We ask that you respect this restriction. All other age groups must hunt on their own. Feel free to coach ahead of time.** There will be 7 minutes between "hunts" to allow parents of multiple children to navigate the crowds. Please, only allow your children to hunt with their respective age group. If for some reason, your child ends up without many eggs, please approach any of our WBNA volunteers in bunny ears, they will have extra goodies.

Last, but not least, please remember that this event is put on by volunteers. We spend weeks getting ready and usually stuff 8,000-10,000 eggs (if you are wondering, yes we recycle those eggs.) It's no small feat. So, if a volunteer asks something of you, please be respectful of their requests.

We love our neighbors and our community. We're asking for everyone's help in advance in creating an enjoyable experience for all involved. Please help us and remember to recycle your eggs before you leave.

We need volunteers to help things run more smoothly. Anyone whose kids have aged out of the hunt, community service groups, or older teens who need service hours, we would be so appreciative of your time! Please contact us for more information at info@wbna.us or sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/EggHuntVols>



Easter Egg Hunt RULES:

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

Age Groups:

0-18mos & 18mos-3yrs

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

4-6yrs • 7-9yrs • 10-12yrs

- * No parents allowed in egg hunting area



BE ON TIME (early is better) AS THE "HUNTS" GO QUICKLY • Wait until your age group is called • Check all eggs for prizes • Let a volunteer know if there's an issue • Recycle your eggs with the WBNA • MOST of ALL, Have FUN!

The Easter Bunny will be available for photos beginning at 10:00am and will stay until everyone has had a chance to talk to him.. Photos will be posted to an album on the WBNA Facebook page or you're welcome to use your own camera.

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Please JOIN or RENEW YOUR WBNA Membership TODAY!
Membership Form on Page 12 or join online at wbna.us/membership/

Extreme Clean Spring!

Saturday, April 15, 2023 | 8am-2pm

WB MUD P & F Yard | 13905 Thermal

Need help transporting your Trash & Recyclables to Extreme Clean? Venture Crew 1409 is here to help!

WB Venture Crew 1409 will be offering trailer transportation of larger items to the Extreme Clean event on April 15 for a minimum donation of \$20. Please tip accordingly. All monies received will be used for future Venturing endeavors. Transportation is limited to In-District residents only. Please schedule your pick up by Friday, April 14, by texting your name and address to 512-413-0097.

Bulk Trash

Trash or bulky items too large that cannot be placed in your trash bin • Wood pallets (broken-down) • Old fencing (broken-down) • Mattresses & box springs • **TIRES ARE NOT ACCEPTED**

Metal Recycling

Lawn mowers (oil & gas emptied) • Metal tools, sheets, rods and framing • All appliances (**Freon must be removed**) • Water heaters • Aluminum

Household Waste & E-Cycling

Household batteries include alkaline batteries - A, AA, C, D, 9V, 6V (all types-heavy duty), phone batteries, rechargeable batteries, computer and small appliance batteries and motorcycle batteries • Antifreeze in clearly labeled and closed container • Latex / water based paints in original sealed and non-leaking container

NOT ACCEPTED: oil based paints, stains, thinners, motor and cooking oil, gasoline, chemicals/pesticides, or car batteries

Electronics and Appliance Recycling

Computers, laptops and monitors • Tablets, cell phones and chargers • Wire (extension cords, Xmas lights, computer cables) • CDs, DVDs and opy discs • Routers, DVRs and cable boxes • Lamps • All TVs, VCRs and DVD players • Printers, copiers, scanners and fax machines • Radios, stereos and speakers • Small kitchen appliances (microwaves, coffee makers, toasters, etc.)

Styrofoam

Clean egg cartons, food packaging, meat trays, to-go containers, disposable plates and coffee cups, large packing pieces and foam ice chests

NOT ACCEPTED: packing peanuts, and Styrofoam attached or glued to other materials, like cardboard or plastic film

Regular Bulk Recycling

• Cardboard boxes – all sizes; large appliance boxes should be broken down & **FREE from Styrofoam and/or other packing material** • Plastics (#1-7)

Drug Take-Back - Pill Form ONLY

Creams, liquids, ointments and pet medication will **NOT** be accepted.

On-Site Shredding

Carbon paper, colored paper, computer paper, fax paper, transparencies, post-it notes, window envelopes, glossy paper, invoice paper, laser print-outs, ledger paper, letterhead, stationary, NCR paper

Donations

(Donated items **MUST** be dropped off pre-sorted and labeled as volunteers will **NOT** be able to sort).

Animal shelter

New or gently used crates, clean bedding, blankets, towels, bowls, toys and unexpired unopened food • Old blue jeans

Austin Creative Re-Use

Arts and crafts supplies • Fabric, yarn and knitting supplies • Puzzles, game pieces and playing cards • Acrylic and craft paint • Blue painters tape • Wine & champagne corks • Fully functional sewing machines

Gather-n-Give

Backpacks, suitcases (new, gently used) • School supplies • Basic clothing needs (new) socks, (new) underwear, t-shirts, sweatshirts, etc. • Basic hygiene products (diapers, feminine hygiene, soap, toothpaste, etc. • Gift cards for food

Easter Seals

• Gently used clothing & shoes (all ages & sizes; nothing soiled, stained, torn or too worn) • Linens & household items

Off-Site Yard Chemical Re-Purposing & Recycling—CANCELLED

Emergency Preparation Supplies

Sales Tax Holiday April 22 – 24, 2023

<https://comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/publications/98-1017.php>

Natural disasters will continue to happen. Prepare yourself during the 2022 Emergency Preparation Supplies Sales Tax Holiday for emergencies that can cause physical damage like hurricanes, flash floods and wildfires. You can purchase certain emergency preparation supplies tax free during the sales tax holiday. There is no limit on the number of qualifying items you can purchase, and you do not need to give an exemption certificate to claim the exemption.

This year's holiday begins at 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, April 22, and ends at midnight on Monday, April 24.

These emergency preparation supplies qualify for tax exemption if purchased for a sales price:

Less than \$3000

- Portable generators.

Less than \$300

- Emergency ladders.
- Hurricane shutters.

Less than \$75

- Axes.
- Batteries, single or multipack (AAA cell, AA cell, C cell, D cell, 6 volt or 9 volt).
- Can openers - nonelectric.
- Carbon monoxide detectors.
- Coolers and ice chests for food storage – nonelectric.
- Fire extinguishers.
- First aid kits.
- Fuel containers.
- Ground anchor systems and tie-down kits.
- Hatchets.
- Ice products - reusable and artificial.
- Light sources - portable self-powered (including battery operated).
- Examples of items include: candles, flashlights and lanterns.
- Mobile telephone batteries and mobile telephone chargers.
- Radios - portable self-powered (including battery operated) - includes two-way and weather band radios.
- Smoke detectors.
- Tarps and other plastic sheeting.

Note: Several over-the-counter self-care items, such as anti-bacterial hand sanitizer, soap, spray and wipes, are always exempt from sales tax if they are labeled with a "Drug Facts" panel in accordance with federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations.

For a comprehensive list of items not covered, information on online purchases and telephone orders, additional charges that affect the sales price, and sales tax refund requests, please visit: <https://comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/publications/98-1017.php>



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5th Annual Wells Branch Youth Disc Golf Tournament **Sunday, April 16 | 1:00-5:30pm** **Wells Branch Disc Golf Course on Owen Tech**

Get those discs ready and bring your little ones out to the course! Wells Branch MUD Parks and Recreation in partnership with the Wells Branch Disc Golf Club is hosting the Annual Youth Disc Golf Tournament! Participants will receive custom-stamped event discs and there will be trophies for age division winners.

Age Divisions:

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

Event Schedule:

1:15 - 1:50 - Player check-in/signup
1:50 - Announcements & player walk to tee box assignments
2:00 - Tee off
4:30 - Last team turns in scorecard
4:30 - 4:45 - Tallying of scores
4:45 - 5:00 - Door prize drawings
5:00 - 5:15 - Trophy awards & Thank You

- **Pre-registration is required.**
- **Walk up registration will NOT be available.**
- There is a \$20 registration fee for this event.
- Participants must be 18 or under.
- Will reschedule if inclement weather should occur.
- Participants will get two custom-stamped event discs, and there will be trophies for age division winners for boys and girls.

Signup on the WB MUD event registration system. Their system requires you to first create an account (top right corner) and then wait for WB MUD staff to activate your account before you can complete registration. Since that can take a while before they activate your account, do it now! **Walk up registration will NOT be available.**
<https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/wellsbranchmud/activity/search/detail/5906>

Questions or problems while registering? The WB Rec. Center staff can help or take registration over the phone at: 512-251-9814.

Annual Disc Golf Tournament **May 13 | 9:00am-12:30pm** **Wells Branch Disc Golf Course on Owen Tech**

Join the disc golf community and come out to Wells Branch MUD Parks and Recreation's Annual Disc Golf Tournament! The course is south of Wells Branch Parkway and parking is available along the street on Owen Tech Blvd., across from Whataburger. Each player will receive a custom artwork disc golf disc as part of their registration. At the top of each hour, local disc golf players will hold short instructional sessions on disc golf rules and different techniques for gripping the disc and throwing disc golf drives and putts. Winners from each division will receive an award. All players will have a chance to win a door prize.

Pre-registration is required. Walk up registration will NOT be available. The link can be found on the Wells Branch MUD website under Special Events.

- There is a \$25 registration fee for this event.
- This is an all-ages, family-friendly event.
- Prizes will be awarded.
- Will reschedule in case of inclement weather.

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Community Update:

St. Andrews Food Pantry by Derek Mahnke

The pantry has been an ongoing part of the church's community mission for several decades. Over the years the program has grown to serve a much wider set of community needs. The St. Andrews food pantry is one of the few in the area with no income or geographic restrictions making our services available to all.

Since 2015, in addition to food, our organization has provided diapers and hygiene products, and school supplies, as each school year begins. Prior to the pandemic, our group hosted a special Thanksgiving dinner for our customers featuring food, games and prizes. We are working hard to bring this important event back. Volunteer efforts are key to our success. We would like to recognize Laura Landsman and Tina Tarbox. As pantry manager, Laura and her husband Steve, have worked tirelessly to manage the inventory and volunteer team, since the program began. Tina joined the group in 2006, utilizing her analytical skills, and drives the diaper and personal care program.

Continuing to achieve all our goals, the St. Andrews food pantry relies on our volunteers and donations. In July of 2022, our primary partner Central Texas Food Bank began struggling to get us supplies. Currently, most of our inventory is now stocked through donated funds and goods. We are so grateful for the support we receive from community members during neighborhood events. Food donations also come through WB Library patrons via an on-site collection box. These additional donations are critical in helping us to navigate the current food shortage.

We truly appreciate the community support. To volunteer or donate, please contact St Andrews Presbyterian Church 14311 Wells Port Dr, Austin, TX 78728 (512) 251-0698.

Friends of the Wells Branch Community Library

What Should I Read Next?

At Friends of the Library, we have one mission: to spread the word to the Wells Branch community about our local library and its fantastic programming and resources! One of the best ways we know how to do this is to simply share what wonderful books we're reading (and encourage you to head to the library to check them out!).

Enter: *What Should I Read Next?* This ongoing feature will share reading recommendations from librarians, Friends of the Library members, and the Wells Branch community. You can find more of this series and other information about the library on our blog: <http://wbfriends.org>

In Battle Royal by Lucy Parker, two bakers go head-to-head for a lucrative wedding contract, while simultaneously having to work together judging a baking competition. They don't exactly get along...yet. This book was so cute, so sweet (pun intended) and I finished it in a day and a half because I could not put it down. -- *Lauren, Wells Branch Community Library Outreach & Marketing Assistant Manager*

One of my very favorite recent reads with my children was ***A Nest for Celeste*** by Henri Cole. Set in the South in the 1800's, this beautiful novel centers around Celeste, a mouse that finds her home in the pocket of teenage Jacob (assistant to John James Audubon). My 6.5 and 4 year old adored this book and it prompted many wonderful conversations about home, adventure, ethics, and nature. It is a great seasonal book for spring and pairs wonderfully with ***The Boy Who Drew Birds*** by Jacqueline Davies. --*Morgan Simon, Friends of the Library Vice President*

I've recently been reading the ***Flavia de Luce*** novels by Alan Bradley on my Kindle. Our library offers the whole series (as eBooks on Overdrive) about this exceedingly precocious English 11-year-old with a particular interest in chemistry -- the chemistry of poisons. The first of the series, ***The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie***, won acclaim from the mystery-writing community. They are a lot of fun, as murder mysteries go. -- *David Mead, Friends of the Library Treasurer*

From Blood and Ash by Jennifer L Armentrout is an epic high fantasy about a sheltered princess who falls in love with her bodyguard. Bodyguard has more than a few secrets but that's what makes it fun. It's also got vampires, werewolves and monsters. I recommend it to anyone who likes romance and fantasy, perfect for Sarah J. Maas fans. -- *Kaitlyn, Wells Branch Community Library Youth Services Assistant Manager*

I just finished ***Heavy Weather*** by Bruce Sterling for my science fiction/fantasy book group, which did not disappoint. Set in 2031 after severe climate and political upheaval, it follows storm chasers in devastated West Texas who are modeling a possible F6 tornado phenomenon. It kept my interest all the way through, even with technical details and was thought provoking with what is happening today. -- *Nancy Loomis, Friends of the Library Secretary*



15001 Wells Port Drive | 512-989-3188
10am-8pm Mon-Thurs,
10am-6pm Fri & Sat; 1pm-6pm Sun

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

****Program registration: wblibrary.eventbrite.com**

The library will be closed on April 9 and April 27.

Writer's Guild– Sun 4/2 & 4/16 @ 2pm.

Share and edit work together while learning to improve your writing. All genres are welcome. Open to all writers ages 13+.

DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) Day is April 12.

Enjoy quiet time reading to your child or hear community pop-up readers in our Read to Me Family Area

****FIRST FRIDAY: Paint a Birdhouse 4/7 @ 6pm**

SPECIAL KIDS PROGRAMS:

****Move Your Tale Improv: Sat 4/1 @ 1:30pm**

Celebrate April Fool's Day with comedy for all ages.

****Young Rembrandts: Mon 4/24 @ 6pm**

Ages 5+ can create a masterpiece in an hour.

Teens & Tweens (ages 10+)

Teen Library Council meets Sat 4/1 & 4/15 @ 2pm

Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt in the Teen Area will run throughout April.

Open Table D&D: Mon April 10 & 24 @ 5pm

Enjoy a one-day story with new and different players each time. No experience necessary. Ages 10-99 can play.

WEEKLY KIDS PROGRAMS

- Mon @ 10:30am: Baby Signs
- Mon @ 11:15am: Storytime
- Mon @ 4:30pm: ****ATLAS CLUB** (age 8-12 only)
- Tues @ 10:30am: Spanish Circle Time
- Tues @ 11:15am: Bilingual Storytime
- Tues @ 4:15pm & 5:15pm: **** LEGO Lab** (age 5+)
- Wed @ 10:30am: Circle Time
- Wed @ 11:15am: Storytime
- Thu @ 10:30am : Storytime
- Thu @ 5pm: Storytime and Craft
- Fri @ 10:30am: Alphabuddies
- Sat @ 10:30am: Storytime and Craft

ADULT PROGRAMS:

Medicare 101: Sat 4/1 @ 10am

Specialist Lee B. Green will give an overview and answer your questions. All are welcome.

****Try It! Paint by Number: Sat 4/1 @ 4pm**

All supplies are provided for you to relax and paint.

Traveling Tea Book Club: Thu 4/6 @ 6pm

Meet up, talk about books, and drink some tea together. You don't need to be a member to attend.

****Hanging Tea Cup Bird Feeder: Sat 4/22 @ 4pm**

Welcome birds to your yard with this darling feeder.

Spice of the Month Club: Sat 4/8 @ 4pm

Members can pick up a spice packet which includes some history, spice sample, and recipes. Give it a try and share your thoughts, tips, success (and failure) with the group.

Bird Migration: Sat 4/15 @ 4pm

Learn about the avian athletes who pass through Austin.

****Hoppy Hour: Sat 4/29 @ 4pm (Adults ONLY)**

Crafts and cuddles with a travelling petting zoo.

Adult Wellness

- ****Yoga: 4/27 @ 6:45pm**
- ****Meditation & Stretching: 4/13 @ 6pm**

****Computer Workshops:**

Sat 4/8 @ 10am: Perfect your résumé to match the job.

Sat 4/15 @ 10am: Google Suite: Learn to use Gmail, forms, Google drive and more.

Adult Crafting Space: Drop In Hours

Sundays and Wednesdays 2pm to 5pm

Adult cardholders in good standing can drop in to use our equipment during open hours (call or check the website).

Tech Help is available in the crafting space during drop-in hours. You can get help with our digital library (hoopla and Overdrive/Libby) or tour our databases.

Craft LAB: Wed @ 6:00pm (age 18+)

- ****4/5: Wire Wrap Jewelry**
- **4/12: Knit and Crochet** (ages 10+, no registration)
- ****4/19 Square Beading**
- ****4/26 Netted Beading**

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Our Family Has Been Caring For Your Family Since 1989.



Wells Branch Armada Swim Team News

by Emily Childs, Secretary, WBA

Want your kids to get some exercise, make friends, and have fun this summer? Joining the Wells Branch Armada (WBA) is a great way to do

that. Registration for the 2023 season is underway for new and returning swimmers. Information can be found on our website, <https://wellsbranch.swimtopia.com>.

New parent orientation will be held at the Wells Branch Recreation Center, 3000 Shoreline Dr., on April 20, from 6-7 pm. Evening practices start on Monday, May 1, at the Willow Bend Pool; practices shift to mornings on Wednesday, May 31.

Our home meets are on May 20, May 27, June 3, June 17, and July 8 at the Willow Bend Pool. Whether you have kids on the team or not, feel free to stop by to cheer on your neighbors and enjoy some delicious concessions.

We are currently seeking sponsors for the 2023 season. If interested in sponsoring the team, or donating in some other way, please visit our website. The Wells Branch Armada would like to thank the WB MUD for their continued support. If you have any questions about WBA, send an email to secretary@wbarmada.org.



Find us on:
facebook®



Venturing Crew 1409

Meets every Monday from 7:00-8:00pm
WB MUD Admin. Office | 14611 Wells Port

Venturing Crew 1409 is a diverse group of neighbors who enjoy all things outdoors. Our group does everything from weekend, casual camping to week-long trips that include backcountry backpacking. We do at least one outdoor outing every month and perform our bigger adventures during Spring Break and Summer. There are a multitude of topics discussed during meetings, however a few constants are planning for camping trips, discussing service opportunities, and training. This is also a good program if you want to improve your outdoor camping skills, experience high adventure, or are a scout that wants to join an active Crew.

Ages 14 to 20 are welcome as youth and 21 and up as adults! Whether you enjoy the outdoors, are looking to make friends, or are simply looking for your next adventure, Venturing is for you.

For more information, contact Steve at dzurenko@gmail.com.

Job Openings Available!

The Wells Branch MUD is currently hiring for the positions of:

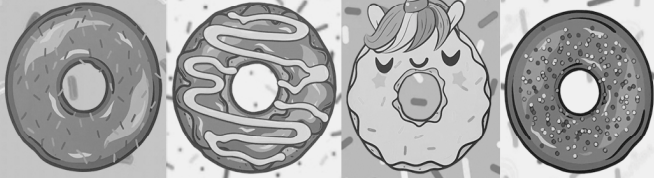
- Seasonal Lifeguard • Parks Employee
- Seasonal Camp Counselor

For more information, please visit:

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



ATX Donut



Hours: 6 am - 1 pm / Closed on Tuesday

2113 Wells Branch Pkwy. / 737-300-1024



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Financial Advisor

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Edward Jones

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WB Community Update: I35 North / WB Pkwy Construction

Starting in June, the next phase of the TxDOT I35 North Project will begin work on the Wells Branch Parkway intersection. The current interchange will be converted to a DDI (diverging diamond intersection). This section of the project has been on the books for nearly 10 years. The recent survey highlighted key areas of concern such as, access to local businesses, pedestrian/bicycle traffic including cross walk safety, impacted school zones and probable increased traffic on the detour routes. This valuable community feedback will be shared with the WB MUD and other local area agencies to help raise awareness.

The WBNA will provide on-going information and educational resources on our website. Please visit wbna.us.

As a start, here's a link to a TxDOT factsheet on diverging diamond intersections: <https://tinyurl.com/TXDOTINFO>



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We now have 2 Austin Locations!
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Upcoming Events!

Community Event:

Electric Vehicle Demonstration

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

Saturday, April 1* | 9:00am-1:00 pm

(*Rain date: April 15)

14311 Wells Port Drive, Austin

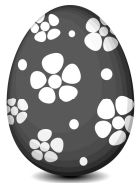
Interested in learning more about electric vehicles? The environmental team from St. Andrew's has organized this special community event. Several different models will be on display including Tesla, BMW, Chevy Bolt, Toyota Prius, Nissan Leaf and others.

There will be additional information on electric vehicles including financial information on government subsidies and the bottom line on owning an electric car. Find out how far electric cars can go and where the charging stations are located.

Please join us to get all this timely and environmentally friendly information.

Point of Contact:

Joe Linsalata | 512-327-5000 | joe@linsalata1.com



WBNA Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 8 | 10:30am

The Homestead at KF Park

2106 Klattenhoff Dr.

Hop into Spring! Join your friends, neighbors and **The Easter Bunny**, himself, at the annual Wells Branch Easter Egg Hunt. **"Hunts" will be by age group and begin at 10:30am.** Plan to come early and visit with the Easter Bunny or have fun at our craft table. *For details, see page 1 or visit wbna.us.*

EXTREME CLEAN Spring

Saturday, April 15 | 8am-2pm | 13905 Thermal

Bulk Trash, Shredding, Drug Take-back,

Recycling, Re-purposing! *For more info, see page 2.*



KWBB Don't Mess

with Texas Trash-Off!

Sunday, April 16 | 2-4pm

St. Andrew's Parking Lot | 14311 Wells Port

Join Keep Wells Branch Beautiful and volunteer for the Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off! This is the single largest one-day cleanup event in the state and serves as Texas' signature event for the Great American Cleanup, the nation's largest community improvement program. Anyone can participate in this cleanup effort to aid in keeping our neighborhood trash-free and beautiful! Volunteers are asked to wear water-safe boots, as most of the trash is in the creek. We will provide gloves, pickers and trash bags.

5th Annual Wells Branch

Youth Disc Golf Tournament

Sunday, April 16 | 1:00-5:30pm

Wells Branch Disc Golf Course on Owen Tech

Pre-registration required. *See page 3 for details.*

Pioneer Festival

Saturday, April 22 | Noon-5:00pm

WB Homestead at KF Park | 2106 Klattenhoff Dr.

Step back in time at the free 40th anniversary Pioneer Festival hosted by Wells Branch MUD Parks and Recreation! Walk the grounds of the Homestead and witness demonstrations that will transport you back into Texas history. Share in historic figures and nostalgic artifacts that will leave the whole family in awe, and take part in crafts and activities that are bound to create memorable experiences. Demonstrations include butter churning, weaving, and log splitting, just to name a few. If you would like to volunteer or have a craft or activity from that period for demonstration, please contact us at 512-251-9814 or email Tina at ttill@wellsbranchmud.com. This event will be canceled in the case of inclement weather.

WB MUD Dive-In Movie:

Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile

Friday, May 5 | 8pm | KF Pool | 2106 Klattenhoff

Float on by the first Dive-in Movie event of the summer season hosted by Wells Branch MUD Parks and Recreation! Cool off in the pool or relax poolside as we show **Lyle, Lyle Crocodile**. Regular pool rules and fees apply, with no registration required. This leisurely entertainment experience has a maximum capacity of 80, and in the case of inclement weather, dive-in movies will be held the following Friday.

WB MUD Youth Fishing Tournament

Saturday, May 6 | 9:00am-Noon

Mills Pond Park

Wrangle up the kiddos and come out to the Spring Youth Fishing Tournament hosted by Wells Branch MUD Parks and Recreation! Kids 18 or under are invited to participate in this free outdoorsy tradition no matter their skill level, with prizes awarded for various age groups and categories such as biggest caught, smallest caught, and most caught. We will have a limited supply of poles, hooks, and bait for those anglers who don't have one. Rain or shine, cast those lines.

10th Annual Disc Golf Tournament

May 13 | 9:00am-12:30pm

Wells Branch Disc Golf Course on Owen Tech

Make plans to join the disc golf community and come out to Wells Branch MUD Parks and Recreation's Annual Disc Golf Tournament! **Pre-registration required.** *See page 3 for details.*

Community Clubs

Wells Branch Garden Guild

WB MUD Rec. Center • 3000 Shoreline Dr.

Meets the 3rd Saturday of the month from 10:00-11:00am in Meeting Room 100 / 101

The Garden Guild is a friendly group of neighbors who meet once a month to discuss all things gardening. Topics will vary each month. All are welcome!

Our meetings are the 3rd Saturday of the month from 10:00-11:00am at the Rec. Center. The meetings are posted a few weeks in advance on the Events page of the Wells Branch Garden Guild Facebook page. In January we had a planning meeting, Feb was a demonstration about container gardening and our March meeting featured Rebecca Johnson, an arborist who lives in WB, to discuss caring for our stressed trees. In April, we will tour the Community Gardens.

We hope to have the annual WB Garden Tour on May 20, but it will depend on finding two volunteers to help organize the tour. We need one person to collect names, addresses and email addresses of 6 or 7 gardeners who would like to have their yards on the tour. Another person is needed to plan the route and create a map of the tour stops. Please email susangillespie4@gmail.com if you are available to help or if you are interested in having your yard featured on the tour.

Watch for updates via the WB Google Group, WBNA Facebook Page, WB Garden Guild Facebook Page, and wbna.us.

Silver Branchers

WB MUD Rec. Center • 3000 Shoreline Dr.

Meets every Thursday from 1:00-4:00pm in Meeting Room 100 / 101

Open to active adults, the Silver Branchers bring neighbors together for camaraderie and good laughter. Join this welcoming group for social activities, board games, and great company. Visit wbna.us/community/silver-branchers for the 2023 Day Trip schedule.

For more information or to join the email list, call Glen at 512-461-1665.

Aquafit Classes

Willow Bend Pool | 2801 Sauls

Meets every Tuesday & Thursday from 4:00-5:00pm

Water aerobic workouts are a form of fitness training that can be beneficial for people at any fitness level. Fitness training with water aerobics can improve athletic performance, aid in rehabilitation and improve activities needed for daily living. Free with Pool Tag or All Facilities Rec Tag.

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.

Pioneer Pals (Pre-schoolers)

The Homestead in KF Park | 2106 Klattenhoff Dr.

Meets every Wednesday, 9:30-10:30am.

Calling all pre-schoolers! Bring your caregiver and join us for weekly storytelling sessions, where your child will experience a fun-filled morning bursting with stories creatively read to the group, songs that will have them dancing the morning away, crafts inspiring thoughtful creativity and activities that can't be found anywhere else except the Wells Branch Homestead. Explore Texas Pioneer life, learn about nature and history, and make some new friends along the way.

Wells Branch Photo Club

WB MUD Rec. Center • 3000 Shoreline Dr.

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 6:30-8:00pm in Meeting Room 100 / 101

Meetings are a drop-in format and everyone is welcome. The club includes members of all skill levels from those just starting to enjoy the photographic hobby to semi-professional enthusiasts.

Watch for updates via the WB Google Group, WBNA Facebook Page, WB Photo Club Facebook Page, and wbna.us.

Questions? Contact Margaret Sufke at mmsufke@gmail.com or 512-341-0425 (msg).

Celebrating Community Spirit!

2023 Cultural Diversity Fair

Shout out to all the community members that actively participated in the recent Cultural Diversity Fair. There were several new booths featuring Texas cultural heritage, global climate change and preparing for emergencies and a foreign student exchange program. There were activities for the kids and some excellent entertainment along with tasty food. If you missed participating in this event, it will be back in 2025. We would like to extend a huge thank you to the WB MUD for partnering on this event and sharing the facilities at the Rec. Center.

February Fire Safety Meeting

Shout out for our local fire department crew!

The WBNA board would like to thank Asst. Chief Dan Berger from the Pflugerville Fire Department and the TCESD2 team for participating in our annual general meeting. Following a short business meeting, Asst. Chief Dan and his team provided an engaging presentation on fire safety and hosted a short Q and A session on the current funding petition. Best of all, several of the fire fighters and EMT responders brought out "Big Red" the pumper truck to the community center and provided a lively hands-on session. Don't worry if you missed this meeting, they will be back in May.

WBNA 2023 Board Election Results

wbna.us | info@wbna.us

We are excited to announce the 2023 WBNA board! Prior to the recent Fire Safety Meeting with Asst. Chief Dan Berger from the Pflugerville Fire Department and TCESD2, we held our annual business meeting. A small group of community members were present and a nomination from the floor was accepted for Nadia Bernard to fill place 3. The WBNA group present put forward a motion to ratify Mikella Maughan, replacing Pamela Woodward. The final voting was deferred until the March 1, when the board met forming a quorum and the new board was elected. 2023 WBNA board members are Nadia Bernard, Heather Briggs, Darci Marter, Mikella Maughan, Terra Moses, Juli Thacther, and Margaret Sufke. Please visit: <http://wbna.us/about/wbna-board/> for complete biographies.

We would like to take this opportunity to recognize Donna Malone. Donna has served on the WBNA board for 11 years. During her tenure, Donna's family grew from a single newborn to three wonderful children. Donna and her husband Paul also launched Malone's Coffee starting with a single walk-up trailer, becoming the thriving local business it is today. Donna is stepping back from the WBNA to focus on her family and business. Donna's highly valued contributions will be missed.

We would also like to thank Pamela Woodward for her contributions in 2022. As additional family and work commitments grew, Pamela asked to step down after several years service. Pamela's contributions to the Fourth Fest and recycling efforts will be missed. Last but certainly not least, the board offers special recognition to Debby Thompson who graciously volunteered her time by continuing to serve as the Newsletter Editor in 2022. Debby is an invaluable member of the team.

Please say hello to the all the WBNA board members at the next community event! We are looking forward to hosting the 2023 calendar of neighborhood events. Please join us.

WB Soccer Association

By Steve Wilson, WBSA President

The Spring season for Wells Branch Soccer Association began two weeks ago and it is always great to see the kids - especially the younger ones - back out on the fields after the long Winter break. Registrations across the entire organization are up again due to all the new families who are moving to our neighborhood and surrounding communities. From our great SoccerKidz program to the upper age teams who are representing WBSA on the State level, WBSA continues to stake its claim as the most quality and value-driven volunteer-led program in the area. Make sure to "Like" our Facebook page so that you can receive notice when the next season registration opens up. Thanks again to the WB MUD and to the whole community for its continued support of this long-running community program.



File Your Taxes for FREE

Call 211 | ProsperTaxHelp.Org

WB MUD Rec. Center | 3000 Shoreline Dr.

Save Money, Don't Stress!

File free with an IRS certified tax preparer. The Prosper Centers group, partnering with the Foundation Communities organization is offering appointments at the Wells Branch Rec. Center on Shoreline.

This service provides support to thousands of community members each year, helping them get the maximum tax refund. They'll also help file prior year tax returns, respond to IRS letters, and complete ITIN applications.

Prosper Tax Help is a free service available to individuals who make less than \$60,000/year and households of 2-4 that make less than \$85,000/year. Income limit increases by \$5,000 for each additional family member.

Call 211 or visit ProsperTaxHelp.org to schedule an appointment.

Foundation Communities | Prosper Centers

File Your Taxes for Free Save Money, Don't Stress

File free with an IRS certified tax preparer. The Prosper Centers group, partnering with the Foundation Communities organization is offering appointments at the Wells Branch Rec Center.



Filing Deadline:
April 18, 2023

Schedule an appointment:
Call: 211
or ProsperTaxHelp.org

Wells Branch
Recreation Center
3000 Shoreline Dr.
Austin, TX 78728
Call 211 to schedule
ProsperTaxHelp.org

LOVE our Rat Snakes! by Brad Dushkin

We've had several sightings of blotched water snakes and rat snakes already this spring! Please remember that these snakes are our **FRIENDS**. Rat snakes earn their keep around here by keeping the rodent population down and blotched water snakes are an important part of the food chain. While the rat snakes can get quite large (up to 6ft), neither pose a threat to you, your children or your pets and are reluctant to bite unless messed with - leave them be and they'll go on about their business.





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New MUD Board Director, Jon Klekman

On Tuesday, February 21, Wells Branch Resident Jon Klekman was sworn in as the newest member of the Wells Branch MUD Board of Directors. He was appointed by the Board to serve the place vacated by the late Janet Maxey. The Board started the selection process in January, and at the February 7 meeting selected two finalist candidates. Jon will serve on the Public Safety and Recreation Committees.



Jon Klekman moved to the Wells Branch area in 2019 from East Austin. Originally from suburban New York City, Jon moved to Texas in 2008 and lives with his wife, son and canine companion, Honey. The moment Jon moved to Wells Branch he knew it was a special community. It's a place where kind people melt together and share beautiful moments, whether helping to keep the neighborhood beautiful and safe, to families sharing moments at the Recreation Center, pools and trails. Families build long lasting friendships on the soccer fields and in community groups. Jon wanted to be an active part in the local government of Wells Branch.

During the pandemic, Jon and family hosted many driveway Jazz performances and also held a performance at the library to offer the community a place to safely gather and enjoy time together. He also helped with resource sharing during winter storms and the pandemic. The generosity of spirit and diversity of the neighborhood is inspiring. Jon has particular interest in Recreation Programming as well as Public Safety, the two committees on which he sits. As former Board Member of the Wells Branch Neighborhood Association (WBNA), Jon has worked on projects and events with community members over the past few years as well. Outside of the neighborhood, Jon is actively involved with Meals on Wheels of Central Texas and A.G.E. of Central Texas as a volunteer delivering meals and music performances to seniors. Professionally, Jon splits his time between working for the Teacher Retirement System, serving teachers, and leading his own Jazz group in the Austin Area.

Jon is inspired by this community and has a drive to be a public servant, community leader and to give back to it.

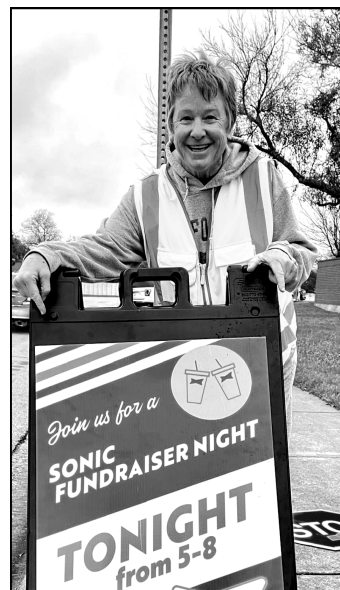
Coad Red Alert: Wells Branch Elementary's Beloved Coach Is Retiring!

Kelly Coad, the physical education Teacher at Wells Branch Elementary, Round Rock ISD, is retiring after 23 years of service to the



school. Coach Coad is a stable, strong, and loving presence with a passion for fitness and health. She sought to inspire the children and advocate for programs that support them to attain greater fitness and make it fun! With delicate maneuvering she managed to bring in run club, in-line skating, and a biking program by working closely with the PTA and organizations like 100 Bikeforkids. She led over a decade of "Healthy Heart Challenges" that advocate heart health while raising funds in support of the program. After years of state and local budget cuts that removed nutrition and health programs from school curricula, Coach Coad worked with PTA in grant writing initiatives that funded the school's physical education program and school garden including the following:

- 2012 - HEB Healthy Kids Grant (\$2,500)
- 2013 - General Mills Grant, Champion for Healthy Kids (\$10,000)
- 2014 - Whole Kids Foundation School Garden Grant Program (\$2,500)



It is often said that educators enter the teaching profession because they want to make a difference. Coach Coad's impact on the WBE learning community is great, but it extends beyond the school. She had her hand on the pulse of the greater community as she led our children consistently over their most formative years. We are all going to miss her so much! The WBE school community is invited to Coach Coad's retirement celebration on May 12 at KF Park. For details visit <https://wellsbranchpta.org/>.

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Happy Spring!



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

Here is my check (made out to **WBNA**) for \$25 annual dues for 2023

____ Renew membership ____ New member

WBNA

Name(s) _____ E-mail: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Ready to help with: ____ Newsletter Delivery ____ Crime Watch ____ July 4th
____ Easter Egg Hunt ____ Nat'l Night Out ____ Pumpkin Patch ____ Luminary Fest

MAIL TO: WBNA Membership, 2104 Klattenhoff, Austin, TX 78728 | ONLINE: wbna.us/membership/