

2024 Silent Auction Donations Needed

Looking for treasures? The WBNA Silent Auction is coming up faster that you think! The annual auction is our BIG fundraiser and takes place during the WB MUD 4th Fest celebration on July 4th. Monies raised help to fund the various WBNA community events: the Easter Egg Hunt, National Night Out, Pumpkin Painting and our participation in WB MUD Halloween Trunk or Treat, and the crafts at Luminary Fest as well as on-going town hall meetings, candidate forums and safety awareness sessions throughout the year.



Donating to the WBNA Silent Auction is a GREAT way to promote your business and give back to our community! We are seeking donations of merchandise, gift cards/certificates, themed baskets, and service certifcates to auction. In return,

you will receive exposure for your business at the live auction and on the auction website. The online auction has a rotating featured item section along with item details and links to your site. There's also a special "Thank You" section in the September issue of this newsletter. If you have items or services to donate please email us at silentauction@wbna.us.

Along with support from our local businesses, services, and Austin area attractions, we would LOVE donations from community friends and family. Neighbors through the years have put together some awesome baskets with themes such as "Summer Fun", "Game Night", "Movie Night", "Italian Feast", "Date Night", "Kids Fun".... use your imagination!

We will begin accepting donations Friday, May 10. Donations to be included in the online auction must be received by June 18. Live auction donations will be gratefully accepted through June 30. We would also like to welcome the return of baked goods donations, please contact Margaret Sufke, 512-341-0428, for details.

Volunteers Needed

We are actively seeking event volunteers to help solicit items, prepare the baskets and/or work the auction. If you have any empty baskets leftover from last year, we'd love to have them! Please email us at silentauction@wbna.us and watch for the link to the event volunteer site.

Silent Auction Details

We are excited to run the auction during WB MUD 4th Fest. 2024 marks the 4th year of our special hybrid format with the online auction followed by a "live" event for the final bids on July 4th. The LIVE event will be at the heart of WB MUD 4th Fest in the Community Center from 9:00am - 2:00pm. The online auction will go live the week before. Watch the WB Google Group, our website, and the WBNA Facebook page for updates. An auction link will be included in the next issue of the Neighborhood News.

Friday, June 21: The Silent Auction site goes live!

Monday, July 1: The online site closes and we transition all active bids to the live event.

Thursday, July 4: The LIVE auction opens at 9:00am and the final tables close at 2:00pm.

Online Buy-It-Now purchases may be collected at anytime between 9:00am and 5:00pm on Thursday, July 4. ***Please note: the Silent Auction will be closed from 2:00pm - 3:00pm on July 4 for tallying of bid sheets.

Payments and Pick Up for winning on-site bids will available from 3:00pm - 5:00pm on Thursday, July 4 and on Friday, July 5 from 12:00 - 5:00pm in the WB Community Center, 2106 Klattenhoff.

Armada Extreme Clean Kudos

Armada	Extreme Clean Kudos
page 12	page 7
Articles & Ad Submission page 12	Motorcycle Safety page 6
Community Events pages 8, 10	Partnerships for Children page 11
Community Groups pages 5, 9, 12	Pool Hours (clip-out) page 3
Easter Egg Hunt Recap page 4	TCSO Community Update page 10
ESD 2-Wildfire Prevention page 3	WB Wild page 2

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

NEXT ISSUE ARRIVES JUNE 29!

Wells Branch Wild: Is your lawn ready to go native?



Wells Branch residents can receive up to \$3,000 to replace their lawns with drought-tolerant landscaping (\$100 per 100 square feet converted–500 square feet minimum)! This can be a DIY Project,

or you can hire a landscape company to do the work for you. The City of Austin (COA) is looking for wood-mulched landscapes with native and drought-tolerant plants. Water Conservation program participants must meet all eligibility requirements and receive water from Austin Water or the Wells Branch MUD, a certified water provider. Below are the steps required to receive the rebate.

1) Sign up online at www.waterwiseaustin.org. You will upload photos of your lawn that you intend to remove and provide a measurement of the area. You can follow up with a planting list later if you aren't sure yet what you want to plant. If you have any questions about this program, you can call Chris Charles from the COA at 512-972-0366.

2) Receive a letter of Approval from the COA BEFORE you get started. Note: *You will also need approval from the Wells Branch Architectural Control Committee (http://www.wells-branchmud.com/acc)*.

3) Lawn removal – The EASIEST and least toxic way to remove your lawn is to mow the area short, cover the entire area with flattened cardboard boxes patchwork style, and then apply a 6-inch layer of mulch on top of the cardboard boxes. Cardboard boxes can be picked up FREE from local businesses, on Craigslist, or on our Facebook Buy Nothing Group. The layer of cardboard and mulch will kill off your grass. Wood mulch can be received FREE from Chipdrop.com. The mulch comes from local tree-trimming companies. To see an example of what this FREE mulch looks like you can see it at 14453





1763 Wells Branch Parkway (Entrance is on Merchant Cove) View our discounted rates at www.miniustorage.com or call (512) 251-5689 Robert I. Walker Blvd, or call Karen Buerkle 512-775-1105 to take a private tour of her yard. You must wait for the mulch to be delivered and this can take some time, so use the time to collect as many cardboard boxes as you can.

4) Install plants within the date range specified by the city in your letter of approval. If you haven't already, send a list of native Texas and drought-tolerant plants you intend to install in your yard for approval. Visit the COA plant guide for inspiration: https://www.austintexas.gov/department/growgreen/plant-guide

5) Once approved, purchase your plants and save all receipts as you must submit them to the COA. If you hire a contractor, you will need to provide their paid-in-full receipts as well.

6) Email the COA photos of the completed project with receipts, and paid-in-full contractor invoices if used. Rebate checks will be mailed within 6-8 weeks.

Once completed, we would love for you to register your Garden as a Wildlife Habitat!

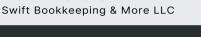
Use the QR code below to see the wildlife habitat checklist. You may be much closer to certifying than you realize! Feel free to contact me (jdzurenko@gmail.com) for any certification questions you might have!

Wells Branch Wild Conservancy's mission is to lead, inspire, and engage our community in stewardship of a healthy and sustainable ecosystem. Follow us on Instagram (@wellsbranchwild). Follow us on Facebook (wellsbranchwild).



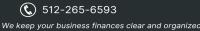


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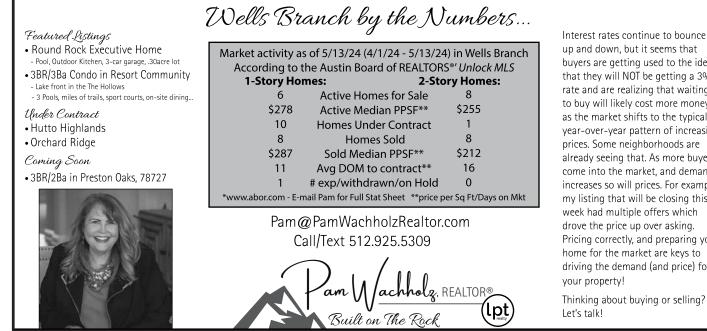
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Hey Neighbor! Need extra space? *Mini U Storage* is the answer!

Mention this ad to support the WBNA



Wildfire Defensible Space by ESD2 / Pflugerville Fire When you do your spring cleaning, don't forget to clean up your yard! One of the most important steps to reducing wildfire risks is to prepare and maintain your own home. The transition from winter to spring is the perfect time to get on top of wildfire danger. Here are 5 easy steps to improving your defensible space:

- 1. Prune dead and low-hanging tree limbs 6 to 10 feet from the ground around the house.
- 2. Keep roof and gutters free from leaves and needles.
- 3. Store all gas, oil and other chemicals away from the house. This includes propane tanks on BBQ pits.
- 4. Relocate your woodpile and any leftover building materials at least 30' from the house. NOTE: It is best to not locate the woodpile directly uphill or downhill of any structures.
- 5. Enclose spaces under porches, decks, foundations and overhangs, and roof/attic vent openings with 1/8" metal screening.

For more steps on how to reduce wildfire risk, check out this link: https://www.pflugervillefire.org/wildfire-defensible-space/

And lastly, in anticipation of a possible wildfire in your area, everyone in your household should become familiar with Ready, Set, Go!, a comprehensive safety plan on emergency preparedness. Download here: https://www.pflugervillefire.org/wildfire-defensible-space/ (click on link at the bottom of the page)



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up and down, but it seems that buyers are getting used to the idea that they will NOT be getting a 3% rate and are realizing that waiting to buy will likely cost more money as the market shifts to the typical year-over-year pattern of increasing prices. Some neighborhoods are already seeing that. As more buyers come into the market, and demand increases so will prices. For example, my listing that will be closing this week had multiple offers which drove the price up over asking. Pricing correctly, and preparing your home for the market are keys to driving the demand (and price) for

Thinking about buying or selling?

Katherine Fleischer (KF) Pool 2106 Klattenhoff • 512-251-9932						
May 28 - August 9, 2024 (subject to change)						
Open Swim	M-	M-Th, Sa		10am-9pm		
Open Swim	F		3-9pm			
Open Swim	Swim			1-9pm		
No Lap Lanes will be available at KF Pool, please use the Willow Bend Pool. KF Pool will close at 8pm on Fridays, June 7, July 12, August 2 for Dive -In Movie events.						
Willow Bend Pool 2801 Sauls • 512-310-1833						
May 28 - August 29, 2024 (subject to change) Open Swim						
with two lap lanes available.		Su, M, V	V, F	12-9pm		
Lap Lane	p Lane		h	1-9pm		
Open Swim with two lap lanes available.		Sa		10am-9pm		
The baby pool wil children ages 5 (and	June 8 Pool Hours TBD due to Armada meet. The baby pool will be open for parents/supervisors and their hildren ages 5 (and under) or 48 inches (or below) in height during all pool hours at BOTH WB & KF Pools.					
change. Visit: wellsbra specific exceptions. If y	ase note: These are general guidelines. Hours are subject to inge. Visit: wellsbranchmud.com/ pools for current information and cific exceptions. If you have any questions about pool operations, ase feel free to contact the Aquatics Supervisor. Katie Hutcheson, at					

please feel free to contact the Aquatics Supervisor, Katie Hutcheson, at 512-251-9814 x111 or khutcheson@wellsbranchmud.com.



Thank you, "Eggcellent" Neighbors!

It's always such a joy to see so many Wells Branch friends and families enjoying a day out in our community. For those wondering, we served roughly 750 children which translates to a crowd exceeding 1400. We are proud of a job well done. The park was clean when we left and several folks stopped and thanked us on the way out.

We would like to thank each and every community volunteer personally for giving up their time to help make this event so special for so many neighbors. We even had 4 or 5 folks step out of the crowds and lend their support during and after the event. Thank you one and all; nothing can happen without volunteers. If you've never volunteered for a WBNA event, we encourage you to do so. For as little as an hour of your time, you get to meet your neighbors and build community.

Janet Maxey always loved this Marjorie Moore quote:

"Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year but when you volunteer, you vote everyday about the kind of community you want to live in."

So, on behalf of Janet, we're sharing it with all our residents once again. Building community together is what Wells Branch is about; it's what the WBNA is about.

Once in awhile, there are a handful of folks who lose sight of this mission. Our volunteers can only do so much, and with a crowd exceeding 1400 folks, things might not go as smoothly as intended. All WBNA events are hosted by the community and for the community. No WBNA event is ever a "public" event, however, we do welcome invited guests of residents.

Please keep in mind: All of the Wells Branch parks are an open space, free for all (general public included) to use. Many folks may have chosen to walk or bike to the event rather than drive, while others may have come to the park and not realized this event was taking place. As we plan for next year, we will certainly consider all the positive feedback we received.

Shout out to ALL our wonderful volunteers: Courtney Baumann, Ashlee & Edward Beck, Lara Bennett and the Bennett Family, Kathy Brown, Sloan Carreon, Steve Cockrell, Hallie Cooper, Lola Cooper, Cheryl Dillis, Susmitha Duggineni, John Elliot. Vernelle Elliot, Derika Evans, Pam Fincher, Marion Frazer (photos), Alicia Fritz, Susan Gezana, Carol Hickey, Travers Hough (EB), Monica Koenig, Gus Kohn, Jane Marawar, David & Joan Mead, Ana McDougall, Conner McGuire, Angela Orth, Kay Peterson, Sarah Randle, Tania Rodales, The Shaffer Family, Tracy Simon, DeLane Spriggs, Mark Sufke, Debby Thompson, Laurie Vasquez, Deluce Villar, Bekah Wachholz (emcee), Dan and Sherrie White and Avery Berry and her two friends who just dropped in on the morning of the event! As always, we make every effort to recognize everyone who went above and beyond, if we overlooked a contribution please let us know.

Photos from the WBNA 2024 Easter Egg Hunt may found on our Facebook page at: https:// bit.ly/2024EEHPhotos



2024 WB MUD Eco Fair Recap

The WBNA was proud to partner with the WB MUD Parks and Recreation team to host the recent Eco Fair. It was truly an outstanding event. The MUD team and dozens of volunteers worked extra hard to bring a tremendous selection of vendors, engaging activities, giveaways and new this year, a live animal wildlife show! Special shout out to Jill Douglass and her team from WB Wild, they went above and beyond to host several great booths and spread the word on native plants.

On the opposite side of the show floor the WBNA team "talked trash" and promoted all manner of ways to celebrate the 4-R's: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Repurpose. There were 7 booths, the recycle game, a recycled craft project, a small theater with videos from Balcones and door prizes. We also added an eBike display to focus on reducing the carbon footprint via alternate transport, one community member even shared an eBike he built from scratch. Congratulations to

young Dorian, he excelled at the recycling game and took home an awesome recycled yard art sculpture!

Kudos to all the wonderful 4-R's volunteers, Liz Grimsley, Cynthia Hannon, Craig Mindell, Angela Orth, Kathy Palmer and her team, Barbara Romero, Martha Rogers, Mark Sufke, Larry Williamson and Joe Wieck and his team.

See you again in 2026! And don't forget to recycle at Extreme Clean in October.



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BSA Venturing Crew 1409 by Steve Dzurenko, Advisor

Venturing is a youth-led program for youth between the ages of 14 and 20. Crew 1409 meets weekly on Tuesdays from 7:00pm-8:00pm at the WB MUD Annex at 14611 Wells Port Dr. For more information visit http://www.crew1409.com or email info@crew1409.com.

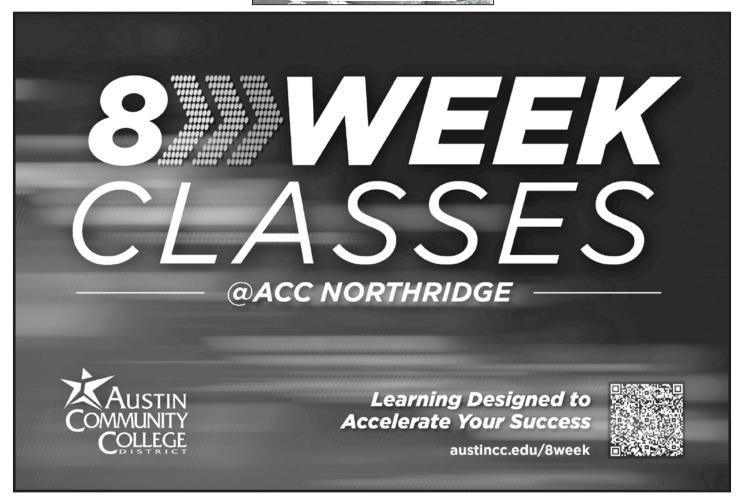
Crew 1409 is a diverse group of youth and adult advisors who enjoy all things outdoors. We have outings every month and go on week-long adventures during Spring Break and summer. We are also a high-adventure group that enjoys backpacking, canoeing, and alpine snowshoeing. For our Spring Break trip this past March, we summited Guadalupe Peak, the highest point in Texas at 8,751 ft.



The Crew will be canoeing in May and is currently planning and training for our summer trip in June to hike Four Pass Loop in Colorado; a 26-mile trail around the Maroon Bells reaching an elevation of 12,500 ft. **THERE ARE STILL 2 YOUTH SPOTS OPEN FOR THE SUMMER TRIP!**

Whether you're seeking adventure, looking to make new friends, or simply wanting to enjoy the outdoors, Venturing is for you.

Join Crew 1409 for s'mores around the firepit in front of the Wells Branch Homestead every 3rd Tuesday of the month. Come see what we're all about, or just have some s'mores on us! We hope to see you Tuesday, May 21 between 7:15pm-8:00pm for some s'mores!



May is National Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month



A Day in the Life of a Rider —

In Memory of Dzavier Luna by Dzavier's Mom It's 6am, you flop out of bed with plenty of time to get ready for work. You suit up for your ride to work, physically and mentally. You have to prepare a little more than usual. It's misting outside. Your means of transportation is a Honda Rebel 300. At 23 years old you don't have the credit nor the income to buy a car.

You put on your boots, helmet and gloves while mentally priming for the cold, wet ride and the impending scrimmage to be seen by other drivers. On your way to work, the person behind you is following so closely you could almost shake their hand. As they finally speed around you, you are impolitely given the middle finger, no consideration of the need for extra caution on a slick, wet road.

You get through a 10-hour shift, time to suit back up and get home. Cruising on the highway, you narrowly escape being hit with a shovel that flew off the back of a truck. The shovel nicked your back tire, so you pull over to make sure your bike is still intact. This is just one day of many.

Over time, you trade your bike in for a bigger, louder bike. You change the muffler to make your bike louder so that people will hear, the horn is just not sufficient in getting drivers' attention.

You start attending paramedic classes at night; another destination added to your daily drive. Added time on the road equals a higher chance of being hit by a rogue landscaping utensil and of course a lot more dodging of preoccupied drivers. Riding a bike as your daily transportation takes adjustments, but you get used to it.

Thanksgiving is here, you get a couple extra days off. Your family is on the agenda for the morning. Time well spent, play fighting with your 3-year-old nephew who adores you. He's yelling your name to assist him in chasing his dad, your brother and best friend. Afternoon rolls around, it's time to pick up your girlfriend and spend time at her family's house. Ready for your second helping of stuffing, you hop on your bike for a quick, relaxing ride. An hour later your girlfriend calls your mom because you have not arrived. Your mom calls your brother because maybe you took the scenic route and ended up somewhere with him. Your brother calls you, no answer.

Your girlfriend is adamant that something is wrong, your GPS location has shown you at the same intersection for an hour and you're unresponsive.

At 4:41 p.m. three state troopers knock on your family's front door. They hand your mother a cell phone and wallet while giving her the worst news of her

whole life, making it the worst day of her whole life. **NOTHING** could be worse than this. **EVERYONE'S lives and hearts are destroyed.**

What should your big brother say to the 3-year-old that was just throwing his arms around your neck and begging you to spin him? This was the end of your life and the beginning of the trauma your family has to endure.

My son made a choice to ride a motorcycle as a cheaper and fun means of transportation. Like most experienced riders, Dzavier understood the vulnerability of riding two wheels, he knew he had to be more vigilant of the drivers who are seemingly blind to motorcycles. The driver, whose actions ended his life, said they saw him but thought they could make it through the left turn. The investigating officer saw nothing that Dzavier could have done to avoid the truck. The driver was given a ticket for failure to yield ROW, nothing more.

Motorcycle safety is not just about riders wearing their helmets. It's about EVERYONE on the road driving conscientiously.

- Be very sure of your blind spot.
- **Double-check** before taking left turns and approaching Intersections.
- Eliminate distractions, be aware of your surroundings, no texting.
- Be mindful and patient.
- Know that just because motorcycles are smaller, it does not mean they can stop faster.
- Make sure any items outside the cab are strapped down tightly.
- Give motorcycles more room when you pass and follow them.
- Share the road...PLEASE!

Driving is a valuable skill, well worth working on. Improvement may very well save a life.

May is the month designated for motorcycle awareness. Bike riders need to get to work, school, gym or to pick up their kids from school everyday. **Drive as if YOUR child** is out there letting the wind ruffle their hair, so another mother doesn't have to arrange the cremation of their child.

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Our Family Has Been Caring For Your Family Since 1989.

Win-Win for the community – Three Cheers for Extreme Clean volunteers!

Each Wells Branch Extreme Clean event is so very important to the community. While we always receive many "thank you's" and positive comments during the event, what may go unnoticed is just how hard the folks who volunteer work to make this event successful.

Not surprisingly, not many people relish the idea of spending 4 to 6 hours in the WB MUD Parks & Facilities Yard, delightful though it is (in good weather anyway). We truly value our volunteers and understand just how difficult it is to get folks interested in signing up to help. The WB MUD graciously provided food and drink for all the volunteers.

The donation vendors are always grateful for our efforts and are genuinely pleased with the quality and quantity of our community donations. We recently received glowing thank you messages from the Salvation Army and Austin Creative Reuse. The St. Andrews team was especially pleased with the



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pantry donations and all of the supplies for the unsheltered community members they serve.

So here's a HUGE KUDOS message for the recent Spring event volunteers: Susan Gezana, Janet Gonzalez, Mary Graf, Dylan, Jeremy Irion, Andrew Jones, David Johnston, Gus Kohn, Donna Lyons, Steve Lyons, Angela and Ray Lee, and Mark Sufke.

Last, but in no way least, an extra special SHOUT OUT to Debby Thompson, who stepped up and found a new organization and then she worked to transport all the pet/animal supplies to a local animal rescue group.

We will see everyone again in October, so feel free to start saving up all those wonderful recyclables! We all can work together to keep Wells Branch eco-friendly and continue to support our fragile environment.

Community Events

WB MUD Memorial Day Casino Night Saturday, May 25 • 6:00pm-9:00pm WB Rec Center • 3000 Shoreline Drive

Residents 21 and older are invited to roll the dice and place your bets at the free Labor Day Casino Night! Win big playing casino games such as poker, blackjack, craps and more. At the end of the night exchange your winnings with raffle tickets for a chance to win prizes. Light refreshments will be served and IDs will be checked at the door.

WB MUD Splash Day! Monday, May 27 • 1:00pm-4:00pm KF Pool • 2106 Klattenhoff Drive

Jump into the coolest event of the summer at the annual Splash Day! Enjoy a day filled with fun for the family where our aquatics team will lead games, safety instructions, swimming and more. Giveaways will be available for the kiddos. This event will be canceled in case of inclement weather. Normal pool rules and fees apply.

WB MUD June Dive-In Movie: *The SpongeBob Movie* Friday, June 7 • 8:00pm KF Pool • 2106 Klattenhoff Drive

Float on by to the June Dive-in Movie event hosted by Wells Branch MUD Parks and Recreation! Cool off in the pool or relax poolside as they show "The SpongeBob Movie" (PG). 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, this event will be canceled.

WB MUD June Movie in the Park: *Migration* Friday, June 14 • 8:30pm KF Park • 2106 Klattenhoff Drive

KF Park • 2106 Klattenhoff Drive Grab a spot at the lune Movies in the Park

Grab a spot at the June Movies in the Park hosted by Wells Branch MUD Parks and Recreation! Roll out the picnic blankets and gather the family to enjoy "Migration" (PG). The movie will start around sunset and is completely free to watch! Check the Wells Branch MUD Facebook page for information on inclement weather closer to event time.

WB MUD Juneteenth Concert

Wednesday, June 19 • 6:00pm-8:00pm KF Park CC Courtyard • 2106 Klattenhoff Drive

Juneteenth commemorates the announcement of the abolition of slavery in Texas. Grab a lawn chair or picnic blanket and join Wells Branch MUD Recreation Department as they host their annual Juneteenth Celebration, featuring an amazing musical performance! The concert will be held at the Community Center Courtyard. This is a free family event and will be held inside the Community Center in the case of inclement weather.

WBNA Silent Auction

Thursday, July 4 • 9:00am-2:00pm with pick-up until 5:00pm WB Community Center • 2106 Klattenhoff Drive See Page 1 for details!

FourthFest Parade & Activities Thursday, July 4 • 10:00am KF Park • 2106 Klattenhoff Drive

Line the streets and wave your flags at the FourthFest parade from 10:00am-10:30am! Cheer on the cars and displays that travel through the streets of Wells Branch and show off your most patriotic pride.

After the parade, snag free watermelon and explore all that Wells Branch has to offer with their flurry of free FourthFest activities. Purchase a tasty lunch from a variety of local vendors. Activities run until 2 p.m.

There is something for everyone at FourthFest, and there's no better place to be on the Fourth of July! Look for the parade map and more info in the June 29 issue of the WBNA Neighborhood News.

WB MUD FourthFest Cornhole Tournament Thursday, July 4 • 10:30am

WB Homestead • 2106 Klattenhoff Drive

If you're driven to compete, try your hand at our cornhole tournament! Get your partner and test your skill in a face off with your fellow cornhole-playing neighbors. Preregistration is required (price available soon) and spots go fast, so make sure to grab your place as soon as you can for a chance to take home the coveted first place spot! Check https://wellsbranchmud.com/parks-a-recreation/events for registration info closer to the event.

WB MUD FourthFest Fireworks Thursday, July 4 • 9:00pm WB Rec Center • 3000 Shoreline Drive

Close out Independence Day with a bang, right here in the District! Launching from the Recreation Center, witness the beauty of the dazzling fireworks show. Fireworks of varying styles and sizes will light up the sky and leave you in awe. No public parking will be available at the Recreation Center and no personal fireworks are allowed on District Property. Map to come in the June 29 issue of the WBNA Neighborhood News or visit WellsBranchMUD.com



Be sure and follow WBNA Wells Branch Neighborhood Association and Wells Branch MUD on Facebook for up-to-the-minute event updates!

<u>Com</u>munity Groups

Wells Branch Photo Club Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month 6:30pm-8:00pm, Room 100 WB MUD Rec. Center • 3000 Shoreline Drive

Meetings are 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 semiprofessional enthusiasts. The group shares tips, tricks and offers to help to those new to the hobby.

A club member recently hosted an introductory class for GSA Troop 45085 so the girls could work on their digital photography badge. The solar eclipse meet up was very successful and some great images were captured. Club members Dave Devore and Rob White have been very busy sharing some amazing images. Dave will lead the May meeting with an intro into drone photography. The June and July meetings will focus on capturing wildlife images and more on macro shots for the community calendar contest.

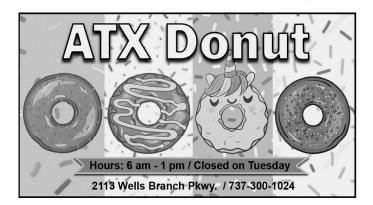
JUNE 11 | Meet-Up at the Pond | 6:30pm Mills Pond | 15108 Wells Port

JULY 9 | Meet-Up Location TBD | 6:30pm

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.







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

Edward Jones Making Sense of Investing Member SIPC

WB Drop-In Mahjongg Club Meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month 6:30pm-8:30pm, Room 101 WB MUD Rec. Center • 3000 Shoreline Dr.

Come join us! The WB Drop-In Mahjongg club is a very active group. We typically have 3-4 tables going and play 3-4 games at each session. It's a great group of folks and there is always someone to help newer players learn the secrets the game.

The club is open to all members of the WB Community beginners and seasoned players are welcome. We play the American four player version and try to balance folks between skill levels and games so that new players may learn in a comfortable environment. A club brochure is available at the WB Rec Center or contact Margaret Sufke at mmsufke@gmail.com or 208-869-5224.

Garden Guild News by Susan Gillespie Meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 10:00am at the Rec Center on Shoreline unless otherwise noted.

Meetings are open to anyone interested in gardening.

If you are new to the area or in joining our group please visit our Facebook page to request access. https://www.facebook.com/groups/WBGardenGuild

Our group is also actively supporting the Wells Branch Wild group, chaired by Jill Douglass. *Please see her update on page 3.*

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TCSO Citizens Academy Update

by Margaret McGhee-Sufke, WBNA President

I recently participated in the TCSO Citizens Academy. Deputy Alexis White, Community Outreach Officer invited members of the Wells Branch community to experience first hand how our local law enforcement officers work so hard to help keep us safe.

The TCSO Citizens Academy is a 12 week program, meeting weekly. The program began in mid-March and topics included so far: a comprehensive team introduction, a full officer training program review, telecommunications and dispatcher overview, and detailed patrol services report. Course instructors led in-depth discussions while sharing first hand experiences from the various field units: Victim Services, DWI, Lake Patrol, Crisis Intervention, SWAT, VICE, School Resource and Auto Theft.

Each section was led by an active serving officer who specializes in a given unit. The wealth of information provided has been extremely insightful. The key take away is that each and every officer can only be fully effective with the help and support of the community. Here's a short list of "hot topics":

Telecommunications/Dispatch – 911: CALL. You must call RIGHT AWAY when you see something out of place, suspect there is a serious issue or witness a crime. Officers can only respond and act quickly if they are aware of an issue. The TCSO operations duty officer explained that they have their own 911 dispatch system that specifically covers ETJ areas, like Wells Branch. Their call routing program includes a very sophisticated system to prioritize calls—let the professionals manage the calls. Their final message was: When in doubt, CALL OUT. Ask Dispatch immediately to connect you to TCSO.

Be Aware of Your Surroundings: Several officers mentioned just how important it is to be aware of your surroundings, but most folks have trouble accurately describing a location. Good news, there's an "app for that". Check the App Store or Google Play Store for **What3Words.** This tool is FREE and every team strongly recommended loading this program on your phone. **If you use the trail system in Wells Branch, this app is a MUST!**

Document Community Issues: Officers cannot react without detailed information, especially for on-going or repeat issues. No one enjoys being a "tattle-tale" or crying wolf, but if the issue is serious and other communication routes have failed or you feel threatened you can report your concern online: https:// www.tcsheriff.org/records-reports/reports/file-online-report. The incident will be recorded and officers will follow up.

Protect Yourself and Your Neighbors: Every officer restated this message. Get involved; know your neighbors and practice being safe. Start a community crime watch group. Request a home safety check at: https://tcsheriff.org/services/public-resources/ home-check-request-form#/ Community involvement is your best defense. As always, lock up, stay aware, use home security tools and be proactive, don't set yourself up as a victim.

Remember, the TCSO deputies are our first response law enforcement team for Wells Branch. Every officer I have met is a dedicated professional committed to public safety. They are here to serve our community, please help by supporting the TCSO team. Stay safe.

Save the Date: WBNA Special Event

"The Arts at the Library" Craft Marketplace

The WBNA is proud to partner with the WB Community Library to host this amazing community event on Saturday, September 28 from 10:00am to 3:00pm at the WB Community Library, 15001 Wells Port Dr.

Calling all Wells Branch and local area artisans!

This event will target hand-crafted goods and artwork. Want to sell your hand crafted products right here in Wells Branch? We are offering an exciting "farmer's market" format for crafters. Do you make jewelry or work in wood, glass, clay, textiles or resin? Showcase your painting, photography, or home goods. Do you craft personal care products like soaps, honey or natural beauty products? Do you bake, write or create music?

If you hand craft something wonderful and you want to sell it—and you want to grow your business in the Wells Branch area, then this event is for YOU and the Wells Branch community. All of the "arts" are included in this event. We are looking to host a wide variety of hand-crafted goods, original artwork, photography, literature, music and culinary creations.

The WBNA will organize and host the event in the parking lot of the Wells Branch Community Library. We will have 10x10' spaces available, with tables on request. We are selling spaces for \$25.00. The fees collected will serve as an additional fund raising opportunity for the WBNA. The WBNA will host a table, selling our calendars and note cards. We will also accept donated goods for sale.

Interested? Look for an upcoming announcement and sign-up sheet for this program in the next few weeks. Questions? Contact Margaret Sufke: info@wbna.us or call and leave a message at 512-341-0824.





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Partnerships for Children

Partnerships for Children (PFC) is a local non-profit organization that supports children and families that are connected to CPS. We are located here in the Wells-Branch community and have been serving kids connected to CPS for 20 years! The primary way that we physically serve families is through our Rainbow Room; a room that is open 24/7 for CPS caseworkers to access that has clothing, hygiene, toys, formula, and any other essentials a child would need.

You can get involved with our program by volunteering, hosting a drive, or getting involved in our upcoming back-toschool program where we provide school supplies, backpacks, and new clothes to students returning to school. Below is a more detailed breakdown of how you can get involved directly with our Back-to-School program!

Hosting a supply drive for us requires you to collect the mostneeded items for the program. This helps us keep items we are low on in stock, to make sure every child is guaranteed all the school supplies they need. This year, the items that we are the lowest on from our back-stock from last year are:

-sharpies	-notecards	-mechanical pencils					
-highlighters	-lunch boxes	-High school backpacks					
-water bottles	-3 ring binders	-graphing calculators (t-7)					
-clothing gift cards (\$25 each) to places like Target, Old Navy,							

After collecting some of the items, you are welcome to bring the items in to drop off and have a tour of the Rainbow Room. You can also come in with a group of friends or your family and choose to volunteer the same day by checking in all the items that you bring in!

If you would like to come into the Rainbow room strictly to volunteer, we can set up a back-packing shift, where you will be helping stuff each backpack with the supplies needed for the child. We typically do each shift in 2-hour increments, with no more than 10 people max. You can email peyton@ partnershipsforchildren.org to see what shifts are available!

We also have an option for you to sponsor our kiddos directly. There are some schools that require more specific supplies, and we need sponsors to shop for their school supply list. These are more "custom" than our general stuffed backpacks. Each child's supplies usually cost between \$75-100. If interested, you can choose how many kids you would like to sponsor, and we will match you with their lists/requests. You would shop the supplies, and then drop them off at our warehouse!

Lastly, of course financial contributions are always helpful. There are some kids who require uniforms to be purchased, and we use any extra funds to purchase more expensive things like this. All monetary donations can be made on our website at www.partnershipsforchildren.org.

We distribute all our backpacks for the program during the last week of July, so timeline for any of these options would be any time before August!

Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity to help make tomorrow better than today for children and families connected to CPS!

The Rainbow Room is located at 14000 Summit Dr. #100, Austin, TX 78728 or call Peyton at 210-854-2134.



Marshalls, etc.



Silver Branchers

Open to active adults, age 50 and up, the Silver Branchers bring neighbors together for camaraderie and good laughter. Join this welcoming group for social activities, dominoes, cards, board games, and great company every Thursday from 1:00-3:00pm. The Silver Branchers meet at the WB MUD Rec Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive in Meeting Room 100/101.

Last month, we enjoyed a Spring Day Trip to the Texas Science & Natural History Museum followed by lunch at Hoovers. It was most enjoyable!

Mark your calendars for the Fall Day Trip – Take the 10:41 Metro Rail train to downtown Austin, Thursday, November 7. Meet at the Howard Lane Station. Lunch at Holey Moley (mini golf too). We return on the 3:14 train. No registration.

For more information visit https://sites.google.com/view/wellsbranchseniors/home or to join the email list, call Glen at 512-461-1665.



Articles & Advertising Submission

Do you have a business or service you'd like to advertise? Have an article of interest to other WB residents? If yes, please visit wbna.us/newsletters for advertising rates or email info@wbna.us for additional information. Deadline for the June 29 issue is June 14.

The WBNA does not accept political advertising. All article submissions are subject to editing. All ads must be pre-paid. Thank you for your support!

Wells Branch Armada Swim Team News

by Emily Childs, Secretary, WBA

The Wells Branch Armada kicked off another great season with afternoon practices starting on April 29. We will switch to morning practices on Tuesday, May 28.

Our home meets are on May 11, May 18, May 25, and June 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. While you're there, have some of the delicious food provided by our concessions team made up of an amazing group of volunteers with a reputation for providing quality food at a low price. All concession proceeds benefit the WBA.

The WBA is a great way to get word out about your business. We have registered more than 200 swimmers from over 100 families in Wells Branch and surrounding areas. If you are interested in sponsoring the team, or donating in some other way, please visit our website at https://wellsbranch.swimto-pia.com. The WBA is a 501(c)(3) organization.

OFFICE USE ONLY Date: Check:	Support your Neighborhood Association by joining the WBNA and continue to make Wells Branch great! Here is my check (made out to WBNA) for \$25 annual dues for 2024 Renew membership New member	WBNA		
Name(s)				
Address:	dress: Phone:			
Ready to help with the second seco	th:Newsletter DeliveryCrime WatchJuly 4th			
Easter Egg H	untNat'l Night OutPumpkin PatchLuminary Fest			
MAIL TO: WBNA Me				