



Neighborhood News

News and information for the residents of Wells Branch
Vol. 33, Issue 3, May/June 2025

4th Fest Silent Auction Donations Needed

The WBNA Silent Auction is coming up faster than you think! The annual auction is our BIG fundraiser and takes place during the WB MUD 4th Fest celebration. Monies raised help support 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 and community seminars.

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, themed baskets, and service certificates. Valuable exposure for your business includes two weeks on our amazing auction website and at the live auction on July 4th. The online auction has a rotating featured item section along with item details and links to your website. Plus there's a special "Thank You" section in the September issue of our 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 local area attractions, we would **LOVE** donations from community friends and family. Over the years neighbors' donations have helped create some awesome gift baskets! Have gently used or new items to clear out? Please contact us with your treasures! Unique items what makes the auction so special.

We will begin accepting donations Friday, May 16. Donations to be included in the online auction must be received by June 22. Live auction donations will be gratefully accepted through June 30. Please contact Margaret Sufke, 512-341-0428, for details.

Volunteers Needed: We are 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.

How I can help? That's a GREAT question!

It's a question that gets asked often, usually quietly as an event winds down and happy folks wander away. The answer is "just get involved"! Inevitably, the contact information is exchanged but the follow up fades away and even the best of intentions are not acted upon.

There are several ways neighbors can help to support both the WBNA and our wonderful community. The WBNA runs entirely on volunteers and donations. Memberships in the WBNA serve as a pledge to support the community and donations are greatly appreciated. Volunteer hours serve as an invaluable contribution and the large scale events simply cannot occur without those helping hands. Watch the local WB social media groups and our website (wbna.us) for electronic volunteer requests for our events.

In 2025, the board adopted an "active" program to increase memberships, donations and volunteer support. The WBNA team will be visible at most major Wells Branch events with upcoming program information and volunteer opportunities. Please reach out when you see us.

Membership runs on an annual basis, from January to December. We open our membership drive in early October, at the National Night Out event. Memberships received after October 1 cover the following year as well. Join the WBNA by pledging an annual membership here: <http://wbna.us/membership/> or see page 12 for the mail-in form.



You may also make a donation to help fund events: <https://tinyurl.com/WBNA-Donation>.



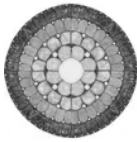
Every volunteer hour spent and every penny donated makes a difference in what we can provide to our community. Join us in the long-standing history of building community in Wells Branch!



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**ST. ANDREW'S
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OPEN MINDS, OPEN HEARTS, OPEN HANDS



Want to Help Neighbors in Need? Volunteers and Donations are ALWAYS needed!

St. Andrew's Food Pantry and Homeless Outreach serve our local neighbors in need at 14311 Wells Port Drive.

Every Thursday night, volunteers serve a hot meal to over 50 people experiencing homelessness. The homeless are also offered a chance to take a shower, do laundry, and pick up donated items. The most requested donations are:

Small tarps and blankets (5'x7' max) for weather protection and groundcover.

New or pre-owned clothing: Belts, jeans (waist 32-36), shorts, sneakers, and t-shirts (M-XXL).

Hygiene products in small bottles: soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, deodorant.

New clothing: socks, men's boxer briefs (M-XL), and women's underwear and sports bras (L-XL)

If you're interested in volunteering on Thursday nights, contact Ed Kopas at edwardkopas@gmail.com.

St. Andrew's Food Pantry serves 220+ households experiencing food insecurity on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month from 9am to noon. The Food Pantry is always in need of volunteers – especially Spanish speakers, computer-savvy volunteers for registration, and volunteer shopping assistants who can stand for 2 hours. Email Food-Pantry@staopen.org to sign up to volunteer.

The Food Pantry is currently requesting donations of:

Canned/dry, non-perishable, unexpired food items like beans, rice, tuna, pasta, pasta sauce, cooking oil, peanut butter, canned fruit/vegetables, and baby food/formula.

Diapers, pullups, and period pads (opened packages are accepted).

Baby-related items like wipes, bottles, bibs, and diaper rash cream.

Bags: Clean and flattened plastic, paper, or canvas bags with handles.

Drop off donations at St. Andrews or the Wells Branch Library donation bin. You can also purchase items from our

Amazon Wishlist: <https://tinyurl.com/vdjsv3wh> they will be shipped straight to the food pantry.
the QR code to see the list!



THANK YOU, Wells Branch Neighbors!

Thank you, "Eggcellent" WB Neighbors!

A "hopping good time" was shared by so many wonderful Wells Branch friends and families at the 2025 WBNA Egg Hunt. For those wondering, we again served roughly 750 children which translates to a crowd exceeding 1400. And we beat our record, there were nearly 12,000 eggs! The park was clean when we left and several folks stopped and thanked us on the way out. A few folks asked how they could "give back" though donations or volunteering. *Please see article on page 1.*

We would like to thank each and every community volunteer personally for sharing their time to help make this event so special for so many neighbors. Volunteer hours exceeded 120 this year. 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, make new friends and have some fun working an event. Building community together is what Wells Branch is about; it's what the WBNA is about.

This year's event went very smoothly and we tried a slightly different layout to better manage our "littlest hunters". There was a single report of a lost child and the entire crowd quieted down while messaging went out and the child was found. We were proud to be able to serve two special needs families as well. A huge thanks to those families who were mindful of kids, treats and the crowds and chose to leave their fur babies at home.

Shout out to ALL our amazing volunteers (52 in total): Randy & Priscilla Baker, Kathy Baternan, Lara Bennett*, Emily Berver, Cathy Beyer, Ann Blocker, Ashley Burns, Jan Burt, Rosie Cantu, Steve Cockrell*, Lola Cooper, Hallie Cooper, Amy Durden, Alicia Fritz, Susan Gezana, Janet Gonzales, Elisha Hough, Travers Hough (*Mr. E Bunny*), Monica Koenig, Gus Kohn, Ana Luna, Greyson Malone, Conner McGuire, Diane McKinnis, Kay Peterson, Arlie Pfeifer, Sarah Randle, Regina Raudabaugh, Chevonne Reed, Jeremy Reed, Kristin Rhodes, Barbara Romero, Tania Rosales, Jannette Scott, Sonya Shaffer, Sophia Shaw, Hollyn Skolaut, Carreon Sloan, DeLane Spriggs, Margaret Sufke*, Mark Sufke, Megan Tesano*, Debby Thompson, Ayme Trevino, Pam Wachholz*, Rebekah Wachholz*, David Ward, Liam Ward, Lisa Ward, Dan & Sherrie White, and Ashley Wilson.

** WBNA Board Members*

As always, we make every effort to recognize everyone who signed up and participated, if we overlooked a contribution please let us know.

See everyone next Spring!



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Wells Branch by the Numbers - Stats & Tips...

Market Stats for 78728*

April '24:	Mar. '25:	April '25:	
\$450,000	\$448,500	\$429,000	Median Price
13	6	15	Closed Homes
20	31	47	Active Homes
1.8	3.4	5.1	Months Inventory
\$237.84	\$229.04	\$249.28	Closed Median PPSF**
2036	2189	1725	Median SF
26	40	127	Avg. Days on Market
96.9%	97%	97.6%	Avg. % Sold vs. List Price

*SOURCE: TX REALTORS MarketViewer, most recent, based on single-family resale homes. Text Pam for source reports! **price per Sq Ft



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Choices to make your home stand out – If you are ready to sell your home you have a few options that could make your home stand out to potential buyers with the current interest rates. First, if you have a loan with a much-lower-than-current interest rate, check with your mortgage company to see if you have an ASSUMABLE LOAN. If your loan is not assumable, and you have a really low interest rate, there is also an owner finance program that can generate monthly checks for you (developed by one of the leading investment attorneys in the state) by charging a little higher interest to the buyer, while still giving the buyer a good rate compared to the current mortgage rates. I can put you in touch to learn more.

If you need fast cash for your home – it is possible through a cash offer platform I belong to. I have a client who will be taking advantage of this program. His home and neighborhood remind me of Wells Branch: older home, established trees, no HOA, desirable schools, great park....his home is not perfect, but he is planning to accept a market value offer. He will close and receive the offer minus a reserve which includes fees, commissions and then my job will be to sell the home for the new buyer and maximize the price. My client will receive a 2nd payment after I sell the home for the reserve or the reserve plus or minus the difference in the sales price vs. original offer price. My goal is to get my client MORE than the reserve.

There are several options available (including a sell and lease back offer), call me and I am happy to explain the differences and submit your property for a bid.

And finally, many thanks to the neighbors who came out for the Protest Your Appraisal presentation in April!

Shout Out for Our Extreme Clean Volunteers!

Each spring and fall the Wells Branch Extreme Clean event is hosted by the WB MUD and the WBNA. This recycling program is so very important to the community. Not only can folks recycle disused items but they can also give back to the community. During this donation drive we collected items for two WB community groups, the St. Andrews Food Bank and Shelter and the Northwest Elementary Food and Clothing Drive.

We always appreciate the many positive comments during the event but what tends to go overlooked is just how hard the folks who volunteer work to make this event successful. We truly value our volunteers. The WB MUD graciously provided food and drink for all the volunteers, a welcome lunch break with delicious Thundercloud subs and plenty of cold drinks.

The donation vendors are always grateful for our efforts and they appreciate with the quality and quantity of our community donations. Once again we received thank you messages from the Salvation Army and

Austin Creative Reuse teams. The St. Andrews team has come to count on the pantry donations and all of the supplies for the unsheltered community members they serve.

A noteworthy donation to Northwest Elementary school was included this spring. The WBNA was contacted by Jayla Rose with a request to help collect donations for their current clothes and food donation program.

So here's a HUGE KUDOS message for the recent Spring event volunteers: Lara Bennett, Susan Gezana, Mary Graf, Michelle Gadush, Jeremy Irion, Steve Lyons, Ray Lee, Angela Orth and Mark & Margaret Sufke.

We will see everyone again in October. Let's work together to keep Wells Branch eco-friendly and continue to support our fragile environment. If you are interested in signing up to help at the next event please watch for the electronic sign up sheet. We'd welcome your support for the community. It's more fun than you think!



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WB Pack 728 News by Lee Logan

A year's worth of hard work has paid off for the Cubs of Wells Branch Pack 728, as our Scouts were just awarded their new badge of rank at our annual advancement ceremony! That means our Scouts are one step closer to earning the Arrow of Light award – the top honor in Cub Scouts. Earlier this spring, this year's class of AOL Scouts crossed over to a Scouts BSA Troop to start a whole new set of adventures. Congrats to all!

This year was jam-packed with fun: two overnight pack campouts, an overnight field trip to Cameron Park Zoo in Waco, service projects, and a host of activities focused on outdoor skills, good citizenship, personal fitness, and more!

Pack 728 is staying busy this summer, too! We'll be volunteering at the Movies in the Park events each month, and we'll also be marching in the July 4th parade. See you at Fourthfest!

Elementary school kids can join Pack 728 all year round, and our summer events are a great way to ease into the Pack and meet some of our families in a relaxed setting before we ramp back into high gear at the start of next school year.

Who: Girls and Boys in Kindergarten through 5th Grade

When: Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. We follow the RRISD school calendar plus a few summer activities

Where: Most meetings are at the Wells Branch MUD Annex, 14611 Wells Port Dr., Austin, TX 78728

For more information, contact WBPack728@gmail.com or check us out at wbpack728.com



BSA Venturing Crew 1409

by Steve Dzurenko, Advisor

Venturing is a youth-led program for youth between the ages of 14 and 20 that focuses on building outdoor adventures with friends. Crew 1409 meets weekly on Tues-

days from 7:00-8:00pm at the WB MUD Annex at 14611 Wells Port Drive. 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 a high-adventure group that enjoys backpacking, canoeing, and alpine snowshoeing. We just returned from snowshoeing in Colorado for Spring Break and we will be spending a week canoeing and camping along the Buffalo River in Arkansas for our Summer Trip in June.

We still have plenty of spots available on our Summer Trip. Please contact us if you are interested in joining us. Whether you're seeking adventure, looking to make new friends, or simply wanting to enjoy the outdoors, Venturing is for you.



WB Armada Swim Team News

The Wells Branch Armada has kicked off another great season! We will switch to morning practices after school is out for the year.

Our home meets are on May 17, May 24, June 3, June 8 (TBD) and June 21 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 concessions 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.swimtopia.com>. The WBA is a 501(c)(3) organization.



Follow us! **INSTAGRAM @WBARMADA**

FACEBOOK @WELLSBRANCH ARMADA



Wells Branch Soccer Assn: What's Ahead!

by Gabriela Hinojosa Secretary, WBSA

The Spring 2025 season officially concluded the weekend of May 3-4, 2025. We hope you all had a fantastic season!

The WBSA Board would like to share a few highlights:

- **Players:** 410
- **Teams:** 30
- **Volunteer Coaches & Managers:** 54
- **Home Games Played:** 120
- **Away Games Played:** 53
- **Active Referees:** 61 (38 Certified Referees and 23 Junior Referees)

Registration for the Fall 2025 season opened on May 15, 2025, and is available via our website: <https://www.wellsbranchsoccer.com/>. WBSA continues to offer both a Family Discount Plan and flexible Payment Plans. Be sure to register early to secure your player's spot on a team!

Although the WBSA Board had originally planned an End-of-Season Party, we made the difficult decision to cancel it due to recent severe weather forecasts. However, we're excited to announce a Fall 2025 Kickoff Party instead—stay tuned for more details!

Thank you to everyone who makes Wells Branch Soccer possible—from our Players, Coaches, and Managers, to the Referees, Families, and Community Members. Soccer in the Wells Branch area wouldn't exist without your support!

Visit wellsbranchsoccer.com along with our Facebook page or email info@wellsbranchsoccer.com for updates. Thanks for being part of the WBSA family!

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Library Renovation- Coming this fall!

The Wells Branch Community Library is very excited to remodel our lovely building so we can grow alongside this amazing community. We have been working on plans, saving our pennies, and gathering community input since 2019!

The first big step is to replace the stacks with shelving on casters. This will make it possible to keep the collection available throughout the construction phases. We hope to install the new shelves between Summer Reading and Labor Day. While that happens, the library itself will be closed to browsing, but programs will continue and you can still borrow materials using the reserve system in the catalog (just like we did when we were closed for the pandemic).

True construction is scheduled to begin in October. Phase 1 will last about four months and focuses on connecting the main library to the meeting room building. Highlights of Phase 1 are enclosing the breezeway to create a lobby, expanding the large meeting room to accommodate more people at programs, reworking the bathrooms on that side, updating the finishes and fixtures in that building, and adding a large storage closet.

The library itself will still be open during this phase and programs will continue. Since we will not have access to the meeting rooms, we will all need to be creative and flexible about our space. We have information and rough drawings available on our website at wblibrary.org/about-us/reimagine-your-library.

Friends of the Library (FOL)

Hosts Quill & Ink Well Booth at Pioneer Fest

Wells Branchers of all ages had a great time stepping back in time as they practiced writing the alphabet with wild turkey feather quills and inkwells! The gingham covered table buzzed with laughter and lighthearted conversation about how tricky (and fun!) it would be to do your homework with one of these old-fashioned pens.

All of the supplies were generously provided by Gwendolyn Johnson, curator of the Wells Branch Homestead. A big thanks as well to Friends of the Library members Joan Mueller Mead, David Mead and Jane Marawar for helping keep the fun going throughout the event.



We also hosted our very first book giveaway, featuring children's books about life in pioneer days—perfect companions to our hands-on history activity.

The Friends of the Library (FOL) is a group of Wells Branch neighbors who volunteer their time to support the amazing programs, events and resources at our Wells Branch Community Library. Membership is free and it's

a great way to get involved and connect with your neighbors.

Find us on Facebook at Wells Branch Community Library - FOL. Or you can email us at friendsofwellsbranchlibrary@gmail.com.



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 at WBLIBRARY.ORG.
Programs are always free. Programs with *require advance registration at wblibrary.eventbrite.com

Adult Programs:

Traveling Tea Book Club: June 5 and July 3 at 6pm
*Patriotic Sign: June 7 at 4pm
Knit & Crochet: June 11 and July 9 at 6pm
Meditation & Stretching: June 12 and July 10 at 6pm
Spice of the Month Club: June 14 and July 12 at 4pm
Résumé Workshop: June 21 and July 19 at 10am
*Bad Art Night: June 21 at 4pm
*Pastels Art Class: June 28 and July 31 at 4pm
*Shrinky Dinks: July 5 at 4pm
*Paint and Pour: July 19 at 4pm
*MidYear Craft Extravaganza: July 24 at 6pm
*Bird Talk: July 26 at 4pm

Adult Craft Classes: Wednesdays at 6pm
Projects for any skill level. Supplies provided; space is limited.
June 4 *Sew a little Stuffie June 18 *Suncatchers
June 25 *Mandala Painting July 2 *Polymer Clay
July 16 *Chainmail July 23 *Painted Totes
July 30 *Leather Bracelets

Teen Programs (Ages 10-17):

Teen Library Council: 2pm on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month. Plan programs/events, make displays, and more.
*Canvas Painting: June 14 at 2pm
*Tiny Tails for Teens: June 21 at 2pm
*Jewelry Making: July 12 at 2pm

Special Summer Programs for Kids and Youth:

*Balloon Twisting: June 4 at 1pm
*Mrs. Dipsworth Stories and Silliness: June 7 at 10:30am
*Mr. Johnny in Concert: June 11 at 10:30am
*Young Rembrandts Art Class: June 17 and July 15 at 6pm
*Mr. Pitts Cartooning Workshop: June 24 at 4:30pm
*Honey Goodenough Puppet Show: July 11 at 4pm
*Joe McDermott in Concert: July 26 at 10:30am

Weekly Programs for 0-5: no registration required

Mon. 10:30am Baby Sign Storytime: for ages 6-36 months
Mon. 11:15am Wiggle Worms: ~20 minutes for ages 1-4
Tues. 10:30am Spanish Circle Time: ~20 minutes for ages 1-4
Tues. 11:15am Bilingual Storytime: English & Spanish together
Wed. 10:30am Circle Time: ~20 minutes for ages 1-4
Wed. 11:15am Storytime: songs and stories for ages 2-5
Thurs. 10:30am Storytime: songs and stories for ages 2-5
Thurs. 5pm Paw Print ST & Craft: animal activities for ages 2-5
Fri. 10:30am Alphabuddies: focused on letter learning
Fri. 11:15am Wiggle Worms: ~20 minutes for ages 1-4
Sat. 10:30am Storytime & Craft: ~35 minute for ages 3-7
1st & 3rd Sat. 11:30am Read to a Therapy Dog

Weekly Youth Programs:

*Time Travelers Club: (ages 8-12) Mondays at 4pm
Kids' Krafternoon: (ages 5-10) Tuesdays at 5pm
*NEW : Level Up (age 8-12) Thursdays at 2pm
*NEW : Kids Color Blast (age 5-12) Fridays at 2pm

COLOR YOUR WORLD: SUMMER READING AT THE LIBRARY

All ages can track their reading on paper or at wblibrary.beanstack.com to earn prizes from June 1 to July 31.

Summer Programs for the Family:

*First Friday- Ukulele Concert: June 6 at 6:30pm. Relax and enjoy this musical summer kick-off with Kai Kamaka.
*Bike Clinic: June 22 at 2pm Learn proper bike care and maintenance with Viva Bikes
*Superhero Party: July 5 at 10:30am. Enjoy games, activities and a story starring some of our favorite heroes.

Sunday Crafternoon: 2-3:30pm (ages 14+) Casual crafting with sewing machines, woodburning, Cricut, Sissix, and more!

Puzzle Swap: First Sunday of each month at 4pm. Bring a puzzle to exchange or come work on one with other puzzle fans.

Coming Soon- Renovation at the Library! We are very excited to be planning an expansion and remodel of our space over the next two years. See some preliminary plans on our website and join the conversation by sending a note to director@wblibrary.org. Since the building will be under construction in December, we're having ***CHRISTMAS IN JULY**. Join us July 18 at 6:30pm for a special summer version of our Polar Express Pajama Party, complete with a visit from a North Pole Celebrity.

WHAT SHOULD I READ NEXT?

As ambassadors of the Wells Branch Community

Library, our mission is to spread the word about all that our local library offers and encourage reading. One of the best ways we know to do this is to simply share what wonderful books are being read in Wells Branch and encourage everyone to head to the library to check them out!

This ongoing feature will share reading recommendations from FOL members, librarians and the Wells Branch Community. If you would like to contribute a short recommendation (200 words or less) of a book you've enjoyed, just e-mail your entry to FriendsofWellsBranchLibrary@gmail.com. If you'd like to become an FOL member, it's free! Just e-mail us your name, address, phone number and we will keep you updated about our activities.

Both of the books featured in this article are available at Wells Branch Community Library in book form and also as an audiobook. For information on how to access free audiobooks from the library, go to [wblibrary.org/Digital Resources](http://wblibrary.org/DigitalResources) and learn how to install the Libby or Hoopla apps. Both give you access to free audiobooks and more. For help or questions, call the library at 512-989-3188 or email at staff@wblibrary.org

Christine Bloemsma recommends:

***Telephone of the Tree* by Alison McGhee**

Ayla and Kiri have been friends since birth. Their friendship connects them to each other and to all the trees of the neighborhood. They care for the trees, play in them, and listen as the trees wave and speak.

Now Kiri is far away, unreachable. One day, a mysterious rotary phone appears in the crook of Ayla's special tree. At first, Ayla ignores the phone, but after she invents a magical purpose for it in conversation with a pizza delivery person, she sees its power to heal and help people find peace.

This book hits hard. It contains the beauty and bitterness of grief and memory. Be careful of reading it in public—there's a true risk of snotty bawling.

Joan Mead, FOL Vice President recommends:

***Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt**

The story follows Tova, a widow and nighttime janitor at an aquarium, who forms an unexpected friendship with an octopus who helps her uncover clues about the years-long disappearance of her son.

If you've enjoyed videos and documentaries about how smart octopuses are, you'll especially enjoy this book and more easily be able to "suspend your disbelief." It's a totally original mystery packed with memorable characters that I cared about.

One plus to listening to the audiobook is that I got to hear the octopus speak in a very formal, condescending manner!





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WB MUD Memorial Day Casino Night

Saturday, May 24 | 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 26 | 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: *Moana 2*

Friday, June 6 | 8:00pm

KF Pool | 2106 Klattenhoff Drive

Float on by to our June Dive-in Movie event hosted by Wells Branch MUD Parks and Recreation! Cool off in the pool or relax poolside as we show "Moana 2." 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: *Inside Out 2*

Friday, June 13 • 8:30pm

KF Park | 2106 Klattenhoff Drive

Grab a spot at our June Movies in the Park hosted by Wells Branch MUD Parks and Recreation! Roll out the picnic blankets and gather the family to enjoy "Inside Out 2." The movie will start around sunset and is completely free to watch! Check WellsBranchMUD.com for information on inclement weather closer to time of event.

WB MUD Bulk Trash Day

Saturday, June 14 | 8am-12pm

WB MUD P & F Yard | 13905 Thermal

For more info on accepted items, visit <http://wellsbranchmud.com/bulk-items/bulk-trash-household-waste>

American Red Cross Blood Drives

Saturday, June 14 | 9:00am-3:00pm

WB MUD Rec. Center | 3000 Shoreline Drive

Wells Branch MUD is partnering with the American Red Cross to host a blood drive at the Recreation Center. Donations are always in high demand, so save lives and consider donating! To donate, visit the link below and enter the Recreation Center zip code (78728). Scroll to the option that says Wells Branch Recreation Center, and select your time to donate!
[Link: wellsbranchmud.com/parks-a-recreation/events](http://wellsbranchmud.com/parks-a-recreation/events).

WB MUD Juneteenth Concert

Thursday, 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.

WB MUD Dive-In Movie: *Elemental*

Rescheduled from May 2 to June 25 due to inclement weather.

Friday, June 25 • 8:00pm

KF Pool • 2106 Klattenhoff Drive

Float on by to our Dive-in Movie event hosted by Wells Branch MUD Parks and Recreation! Cool off in the pool or relax poolside as we show "Elemental." 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.

Wells Branch 4th Fest!

WBNA Silent Auction

Friday, 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

Friday, 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 28 issue of the WBNA Neighborhood News.



WB MUD FourthFest Cornhole Tournament

Friday, July 4 • 11:00am

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. Pre-registration 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

Friday, 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 28 issue of the WBNA Neighborhood News or visit WellsBranchMUD.com



Silver Branchers

Meets every Thursday of the month | 1:00-3:00pm

WB MUD Rec. Center | 3000 Shoreline

Open to active adults, the Silver Branchers bring neighbors together for camaraderie and fun. Join this welcoming group for social activities, board games, cards, dominoes, and great company from 1:00 to 3:00pm on Thursdays. In 2025 during the winter and spring months the group also met on Mondays. Monday meeting dates at the WB MUD Rec Center will end on May 19th, yielding to the WB MUD Summer camp program.

We have an early summer road trip planned for **June 12 to Salado**. Watch the WB Google Group, the Melting Pot Facebook page, the WBNA website (wbna.us) and WBNA Facebook page for details. If you'd like to join us for the Salado trip, please sign up: tinyurl.com/WB-SB-Salado-2025

On day trips, you are responsible for paying your entrance fees and meals. We'll arrange to have car pool groups when we gather at the Rec Center before heading out. Please RSVP via the sign up link above or by calling Margaret: 208-869-5224 to be added to the list. **Cut Off Date: May 30th**.

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

Wells Branch Garden Guild

Meets the 3rd Saturday of each month | 10:00am

WB MUD Rec. Center | 3000 Shoreline

(unless otherwise noted)

Meetings are open to anyone interested in gardening. If you are new to the area or interested in joining our group please visit our Facebook page to request access at facebook.com/groups/WBGardenGuild



WB Drop-In Mahjongg Club

Meets every Wednesday | 6:30pm | Room 101

WB MUD Rec. Center | 3000 Shoreline

The WB Drop-In Mahjongg club has grown and is very active group, please join us! We typically have 3-4 tables going and play several games at each session. It's a great way to learn the game and there is always someone ready to share the secrets the game with the newer players. We now have two club sets, but an extra set is welcome, so please consider bringing a set if you have one.

UPDATE: Several members have chosen to play using the NMJL cards rather than the club training card, this a great option for seasoned players. The new 2025 cards are now available. We will continue to play with the 2024 & 2025 NMJL cards plus the club training cards to ensure everyone has an opportunity to play.

Looking for more information on the game? The WB Community Library has shelved several books on game play and strategy. Both e-book systems on WBCL's website has several titles available.

The club is open to all members of the WB Community, WB MUD Rec. Card is not required. 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.

Wells Branch Photo Club

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month

6:30-8:00pm | 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 semi-professional enthusiasts. The group shares tips, tricks and offers to help to those new to the hobby.

Ready to share your photos? The WBNA Community Calendar Photo Contest is right around the corner.

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.

Advertising & Article Submission

Do you have a business or service you would like to advertise? Have an article of interest to other WB residents? If the answer to either of these questions is yes, please visit wbna.us/newsletters for advertising rates or contact us at info@wbna.us for more information.

Deadline for the June 28 newsletter is Friday, June 13.

The WBNA does not accept political advertising.
All article submissions are subject to editing.
All ads must be pre-paid.

Happy Trails: Keep it Fun, Friendly and Clean *(Courtesy of Wells Branch MUD)*

The District is home to a network of trails that wind through our parks, green spaces, and facilities, connecting the neighborhood from top to bottom. Whether you are walking the dog, playing with the family, or simply enjoying nature, maintaining a peaceful space involves work at every level. To maintain the trails' integrity, you can play a big part in keeping them safe, enjoyable, and clean.

Cycle Smart. If you are biking, adjust your speed to match the flow of trail traffic. Another cyclist, a jogger, or wildlife could be waiting around the corner.

Keep Right, Pass Left. Similar to when you are traveling on a roadway, a general rule of thumb is for slower users to stay toward the right, and faster users to pass on the left. Make sure to signify when passing by giving a heads-up or ringing your bike bell.

Step Aside to Stop. Whether you are taking a break or chatting with a neighbor, be sure to step off to the side of the trail so others can keep moving without having to weave around you.

Paw Patrol. Keep your furry friends close and under control. Dogs must remain on-leash at all times to ensure easy management of their behavior. Remember the golden rule of pet ownership—Do your Doo-ty and Scoop the Poop. Picking up after your dog keeps the trails and creeks clean, stops the spread of pests and diseases, and prevents any messy accidents from happening.

Stay Aware. A long walk is often made more enjoyable by listening to music, speaking with your walking buddy, or listening to nature around you. Have fun on your walk, but stay aware of your surroundings. Knowing who has the right of way and being cognizant of your surroundings helps prevent trail mishaps.

Respect the Rules. A few simple rules help keep our trails clean and safe. Pick up after yourself (and your pup), follow park hours (5am–10pm), and most importantly—enjoy the beauty of nature along the way.

For Emergencies Call 911. For Maintenance Issues Call 512-251-9814.

WB MUD Park Rules: <https://www.wellsbranchmud.com/parks-a-recreation/trails-1>

We can keep the trails welcoming, safe, and clean for years to come if we work together to take care of them.



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**Thank You for Making Our
First Native Plant Sale a
Success!** by Rebecca Benz

We had an amazing turnout at the
Pioneer Festival — more than 800

native and adapted plants found new homes in our community! This wouldn't have been possible without the incredible support of our hardworking volunteers and generous sponsors.

A big thank-you to our sponsors:

- **The Native Plant Society of Texas** — Austin Chapter
- **TexaScapes Landscaping**
- **Greensleeves Nursery**

Proceeds from the sale go directly toward our conservation efforts and educational programs — so your support makes a real difference!

We'd love for you to join us at our upcoming events:

- **June 14, 10:30 AM – Dock at Mills Pond**
Join Niki Lake, Texas turtle expert, for a fun, hands-on presentation about turtles — with live turtles at the pond!
- **July 12, 9:00 AM – WB Recreation Center**
Learn about our urban forest management plan and naturalized landscaping guidelines with Betsey Harper and Shelley Palmer.
- **August 9, 9:00 AM – WB Recreation Center**
Curious about getting your property certified as a wildlife habitat? Come to our Q&A with Jill Douglass!



We hope to see you there!

A Quick Note on Leaf Blower Etiquette

Please be considerate when operating any loud outdoor equipment and please, please, please properly dispose of the leaves! Below are a few basic reminders. **Thank you!**

- Please leaf blow, mow, and weed-eat at reasonable hours.
- Do not use the equipment for excessively long periods of time.
- Do not dispose of your leaves by blowing them into your neighbor's yard.
- Do not blow your leaves into the streets or STORM DRAINS as they flow directly to our creek.
- Dispose of the leaves properly according to your area's rules.
- **If you use a yard service, please make sure they follow these guidelines.**

**Wells Branch Wild Conservancy:
Connecting Kids to Nature!**

Wells Branch Wild Conservancy cares about our youngest community members! We have made it a goal in 2025 to focus on connecting children to nature. Spending time in nature makes kids healthier, happier and smarter. It also helps them become good stewards of the environment. These statements are based on a solid and growing body of research.

Regular time in nature, especially during the early years of life, enhances:

- School readiness
- Social emotional learning
- Health and wellness
- Connection to nature and community.

How is Wells Branch Wild Conservancy helping to connect kids to nature?

First, we are adding more activities for children. You may have attended the recent PUMA (Purple Martin) presentation where kids (and adults!) could see the North Meadow purple martin gourds lowered, and the nests and babies admired.

Coming Up: On June 14, our monthly meeting is a special treat for kids and adults alike! Niki Lake, Texas Turtle Expert, will be at the dock at Mills Pond with live turtles and an interactive presentation all about turtles. Learn about the turtles that call Wells Branch home and interact with turtle ambassadors from the San Marcos Discovery Center. Activities include show and tell about turtle anatomy, turtle ethics, turtle natural history, eastern box turtle and red-eared slider interaction/feeding. The presentation will be held from 10:30-11:30.

Next, we are finding out from Wells Branch parents what is important to them and their families. We are planning a parent focus group for a one-time discussion and idea-sharing. Our future plans will be informed by your thoughts and input. If you are interested in participating, let Linda Welsh know at lawelsh@gmail.com.

You may be wondering what you can do at home to get your family outdoors more. One approach is to consider your own yard (front or back!) as the best place to add to a healthy environment. The whole family can join in certifying your yard as a National Wildlife Habitat (nwf.org/certify). Or, to get started, even ONE native pollinator-friendly plant will bring butterflies to your yard. Kids are fascinated by every stage of the butterflies' lives.

Jill Douglass | Wells Branch Wild Conservancy | wellsbranchwild.org

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WELLS BRANCH HAND-CRAFTERS MARKETPLACE

WBNA 2025 Arts at the Library Market Place: Crafter's Marketplace Program Update September 27, 2025 | 10am-3pm

It's official! The 2025 WBNA Arts at the Library program has received word that the WB Community Library will remain the venue for the 3rd annual "Crafter's Marketplace"! We are so excited to be able to host this truly community based event.

We are reaching out early so our vendors can plan ahead. Please email: info@wbna.us if you are interested in participating in the 2025 event. We are requesting that anyone interested in participating **please use the Early Bird" sign up sheet to reserve a space.** No money will be collected until June 15th. **SIGN UP:** <https://tinyurl.com/2025-AATL-Market>



Nearly 40 vendors signed up last year, most living in Wells Branch! Each artist or crafter brought something unique to the market. Price points ranged from \$1 so even the youngest child could have the thrill of discovering a true treasure and up to \$100 or more for larger, beautiful hand crafted wooden or glass items. Pottery, jewelry and textiles were all on display. There were tasty food or plant based products and personal care items such as soaps and lotions. A truly an amazing range of unique creations! You make it by hand, you can showcase your products right here in your community.

The WBNA team would like to sincerely thank Donita Ward, WB Library Director, the WB Library Board of Trustees and the library staff for allowing us to use their facilities. It's a great venue for this amazing event.



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 2025**
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