



Neighborhood News

News and information for the residents of Wells Branch
Vol. 34, Issue 3, May/June 2026

2026 WBNA Silent Auction Donations Needed

Seems like the WBNA Silent Auction comes up quicker each year! 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 a place 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 donations from neighbors' have helped create some awesome gift baskets! Do you have gently used or new items to clear out? Please contact us with your treasures! Unique items are what make the auction so special.

We have already begun accepting donations. **Don't miss the DEAD-LINES:** Items 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, with any specific questions.

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.



**Travis County Sheriff's Office
Community Town Hall
Thursday, May 14, 2026 | 6:30pm
WB Community Center
2106 Klattenhoff Drive**

Please join your friends and neighbors for an engaging community dialogue with Sheriff Sally Hernandez, Captain Scott Crowe and the TCSO East Command Staff. Officers from the TCSO staff are anxious to hear from the Wells Branch neighborhood. The WBNA team provided a list of current "hot topics" and Travis County Deputies are ready to address all your concerns.

- TCSO East Command Patrol Overview
- Reporting Nuisance & Safety Incidents
- Traffic and Parking Issues
- Encampments & Unsheltered Population Mental Health Response

TCSO staff members will be listening to community members' concerns and taking questions from the audience. There will be educational handouts and fun takeaways for the kiddos. The WBNA will be preparing a list of questions prior to the event. We encourage folks to submit their questions or concerns to info@WBNA.US and enter **TCSO May 2026 Town Hall** in the subject line. Light refreshments will be served.

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Please JOIN or RENEW YOUR WBNA Membership TODAY!





Hey! How Come It Seems Like the Police Never Respond?

Did you know that many current incidents or crimes are either NOT reported at all or are reported incorrectly? Failing to report an issue correctly often

means that law enforcement officers are either unaware or unable to respond.

Travis County Sheriffs Office (East Command Office) is the **responsible agency** for the Wells Branch community.

TCSO East Command | Jim Collier Building
7811 Bureson Manor Rd. Manor, TX 78653 | 512-854-9721

Important Contact Points:

Emergencies: **Call 911 – ask for Travis County Sheriff 911**

NOTE: The TCSO strongly encourages the use of 911, if an issue seems urgent

- **Non-emergency crime** | 512-974-0845, Option 3
- **Major Crimes Tip Line** | 512-854-1444
majorcrimestips@traviscountytx.gov
- **Victim Services** | 512-854-9709 | tcsovs@traviscountytx.gov
- **File an Online Report:** tcsosheriff.org/records-reports/reports/file-online-report

NOTE: Use the online tool to report non-life threatening crimes and report every occurrence of that crime. The data and number of reported nuisance crimes matter and impact response times and actions

- **Capital Area Crime Stoppers** (Austin area):
austincrimestoppers.org
- **Travis County Animal Control Services:** (unincorporated area) (512) 974-2000

Best Practices to Report a Crime to TCSO:

- ALWAYS report ANY suspicious activity or nuisance crime
- IF calling 911, **request TCSO 911** when connected, TCSO has a DEDICATED 911 system and this will generate a faster response
- Use the 911 for any suspected emergency or active crime, TCSO strongly advocates using the dedicated 911 system for any possible threat

Report ANY repeated nuisance crime each time it occurs and use the online system to record each incident

The Wells Branch community has multiple social media sites and folks post and respond to on-going threads on serious issues, often complaining there is limited or no response from law enforcement. While it's good thing to share concerns within the community, nothing will happen if no one actually takes the action to report the possible crime. "When in doubt, Shout it out!" Sage advice from TCSO Deputy Robert Phillips.



Thank YOU for an Egg-cellent Event!

by Margaret McGhee-Sufke

The 2026 WBNA Egg Hunt was Egg-straordinary in that we had to implement a "Rain Plan" at the last minute. We were watching the weather carefully and when the NOAA site predicted a 100% chance of severe rain and thunderstorms from 9:00am-1:00pm on Saturday morning with bad weather promised all day, with less than 24 hours to go, we made the difficult decision to move the event, safety came first.

We set up "EGG STATIONS" by age range, hid prize eggs in the egg boxes and created a "bunny trail" that lead to the Mr. E Bunny photo area. The folks from MOD Pizza were on hand with "egg toss" and cornhole games, prizes, cake bites and free kid meal coupons. Texas Roadhouse has also donated 500 kid meal coupons. And we had a last minute surprise donation from Conner's Creamy for free soft serve cones!

Thanks to our thoughtful community members, the "bunny trail" flow went smoothly and everyone had chance to grab lots of eggs, visit with the bunny, and enjoy the games. Winners were able to collect prizes and a good time was had by all. All the bunny helpers did a great job and there were plenty of extra treats. While this plan may not have been as exciting as the traditional hunt, it was a reasonable compromise. We received very positive feedback that this was a great alternative. Our takeaway for next year was "braces-safe" treats.

We would like to thank each and every community member personally for sharing their time and being flexible. The extra effort made the event so special for friends and neighbors. Volunteer hours exceeded 135 hours this year. Thank you one and all; nothing can happen without our wonderful volunteers.

Shout out to ALL our amazing volunteers (54 in total): Josue & Gigi Balandrano*, Ambergray Bates, Emily Berver and her GS Troop, Shannon Black*, Ashley Burns, Lauren Burns, Chia-Lin Chang and Family, Piper Chisena, Stephen Cockrell*, Dylan Cox, Amy Durden, John Elliott, Niko Fruehling, Amy Gardner, Susan Gezana, Travers Hough (Mr. E Bunny), Scarlett Jessani, Aimee Karr, Monica Koenig, Will Koenig, Gus Kohn, Pam Lewis**, Caroline Love and Family, Grayson Malone, Jillian Meir**, Angelica Monarez, Srav P and Family, Kay Peterson, Sarah Poirier**, Tania Rosales, Brandon Salinas, Elizabeth Saucedo, Hollyn Skolaut, Delane Spriggs, Mark Sufke, Debby Thompson, Laurie Vasquez, Dan & Sherri White, Denise Wolfe and Diane Wolfe *WBNA Board Members, **Out of area visitors who went above and beyond

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.

Earth Fest 5Rs Volunteer Kudos

Shout out to the volunteers in the WBNA 5R's section: Josue Balandrano Coronel* and family, Shannon Black*, Gus Kohn, Liz Grimsley, Craig Mindell, Valerie Milo, Angela Orth, Kathy Palmer, Martha Rogers, Barbara Romero, Margaret & Mark Sufke and Debby Thompson. *WBNA Board Members. As always, we couldn't pull it off without our volunteers!!!



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

Market Stats for 78728*			
Feb. '26:	Mar. '26:	Mar. '25:	
\$399,000	\$487,100	\$448,500	Median Price
7	14	6	Closed Homes
14	11	31	Active Homes
1.2	.9	3.4	Months Inventory
\$217.54	\$227.14	\$229.04	Closed Median PPSF**
1767	2121	2189	Median SF
77	48	40	Avg. Days on Market
95%	96.4%	97%	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

What type of market are we in? The Austin Metro as a whole is in a very buyer-favored market. Meaning, that if you don't have a need to sell quickly, taking the time now to prepare your home and be ready when the market shifts back toward a more favorable sellers market would be to your advantage. Rates had started to stabilize in February, and while the stock market has seen record days and interest rates have not soared, there is still uncertainty for many buyers.

Most buyers are looking for updated, move-in ready homes and for many, school ratings are a very big deal. Unfortunately, we cannot control that - but CAN control how your home is presented.

If selling is on your mind, no matter your home's condition, let's chat about your options and find the best solution for you!



Volunteering and working to improve Wells Branch since 1994.

Questions about buying or selling? Let's talk about your situation & options—give me a call today, 512-925-5309! Pam@PamWachholzRealtor.com



Rare – Primary Suite Downstairs!
15632 Opal Fire Dr. | 3BR/2.5 Ba/2 car garage
Near Willow Bend Pool, Dog Park, Trail Entrance

Volunteer with Wells Branch Wild Conservancy! by Jill Douglass



Volunteer Needs

Wells Branch Wild Conservancy is a local group of volunteer neighbors working together to help our natural environment thrive. We're always happy to welcome new volunteers!

This volunteer would ideally form and coordinate a small team of gardeners to help maintain the gardens on a regular (monthly) basis. This role is perfect for someone who loves native plants and hands-on stewardship.

Current Opportunities

Keep Wells Branch Beautiful (KWBB) Lead
Twice a year we participate in the MUD's Keep Wells Branch Beautiful activities. We need a volunteer to coordinate our participation in this community event.

Community Education Coordinator

Help support our monthly education series by following up with scheduled speakers and introducing them at events. Topics and speakers are already planned—we just need someone to help bring it all together.

Garden Liaison – Homestead Native Plant Garden

The Garden Liaison works alongside the Homestead Curator to enhance and expand the native plant gardens at the park property.

Interested or want to learn more?

Contact: Jill Douglass | jill_douglass@wellsbranchwild.org
512-293-9022 or visit wellsbranchwild.org



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Wells Branch Soccer Association Closes Out Spring and Prepares for Fall

by Gabriela Hinojosa, WBSA Secretary

The Spring 2026 season at Wells Branch Soccer Association (WBSA) wraps up the weekend of May 2. It's been an incredible season. Thank you to all of our players, coaches, and families for bringing the energy every week.

Looking ahead, WBSA United Select Tryouts are set for May 12–13 at the WBSA Soccer Complex. These FREE tryouts are the perfect chance for players ready to take the next step in competitive soccer. Visit our website, www.wellsbranchsoccer.com, for full details and to register.

Starting this fall, WBSA will transition to seasonal (school-year) age groupings in alignment with U.S. Youth Soccer and South Texas Soccer. More information about this change is available on our website.

A big thank you to everyone who volunteered at Pioneer Fest. Your support makes a real impact. WBSA is powered by volunteers, and we truly appreciate our community continuing to step up.

Fall 2026 registration opens in late May. Stay connected through our website and follow us on social media for updates.



Join the Wells Branch Armada Swim Team!

by Manuel Leos Rivas, Secretary, WB Armada

Summer is right around the corner, and the Wells Branch Armada is ready to hit the water! We are looking for neighborhood swimmers of all skill levels to join our team for a season of fun, fitness, and friendship.

Do not wait! Registration is still open, but spots are filling up fast. The final deadline to sign up is May 4th.

REMEMBER: Tuesday, May 5: Red, White, and Blue Practice Meet (Home)

Come be a part of one of the best traditions in Wells Branch. Whether your child is a beginner or a pro, there is a place for them on the Armada. To register or learn more, visit our website at wellsbranch.swimtopia.com.

We cannot wait to see you at the pool!

Please Note: Saturdays May 16, 23, 30, and June 20, Willow Bend Pool will open late due to swim meets.



Scouts BSA Pack 728 News

by Lee Logan, Pack Leader

The scouts in Pack 728 – your Wells Branch cub scout group – are wrapping up this year's requirements of our advancement ceremony in May where they will receive their new badge of rank. This means that they're finishing up activities including service projects, learning about citizenship, enhancing their outdoor skills and building healthy habits.

I'm so proud of our scouts for all of the work they've done this year, and I'm looking forward to recognizing their efforts!

Next, we will transition to a variety of summer events – picking up trash at the movies in the park nights, participating in the July 4 parade, and summer camp for some of our scouts.

Any elementary-aged kid who might be interested in cub scouts can come check us out! Kids can join Pack 728 all year round.

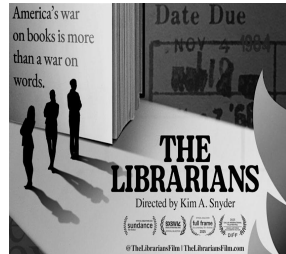
Who: Girls and Boys in Kindergarten through 5th Grade

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

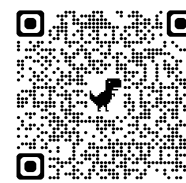
Where: We hold meetings at the Wells Branch MUD Annex, and the Wells Branch Community Center.

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

The Librarians: Film Screening & Discussion Saturday, May 16 | 2:00 - 5:00pm Hosted by St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church 14311 Wells Port



About: America's War on books is more than a war with words. As an unprecedented wave of book banning is sparked in Texas, Florida, and beyond, librarians under siege join forces as unlikely defenders fighting for intellectual freedom on the front lines of democracy. Get your tickets now!



Suggested \$10.00 donation to support local literacy initiatives and/or the Wells Branch Library

Updates to the event will be added to the EVENTBRITE listing.

Questions: Steve Landsman | stevelandzman1@gmail.com
Emma Borders | emmabrianneborders@gmail.com

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Hi, we're Gigi and Josué from WB Hidden Gems!

We started this marketing and advertising company to help build a tighter community by supporting local businesses and independent artists, crafters, and creators. Our approach is community-first. We focus exclusively on Wells Branch and the surrounding 78728 zip code.

More than nine years ago, we moved to Wells Branch and fell in love with this neighborhood and all the creativity we see around us. That's when we started brainstorming what would become WB Hidden Gems. Between our different backgrounds, we saw an opportunity to support local businesses and creativity by strengthening the local economy and inviting people to get more involved in this beautiful community.

Introducing WBHG Monthly

We're currently signing up businesses for our monthly publication, which we'll mail directly to every address in 78728. Each issue will feature full-color ads and promotions from businesses in and around Wells Branch, plus collaborations with local residents.

Every issue of WBHG Monthly will also spotlight a local artist, crafter, or creator. This monthly feature is our way of supporting creativity in the community by giving artists a platform free of charge. **Let us know if you are an independent artists or you know of one that we should feature!** We're also including an activity page with coloring and puzzles for kids and adults alike.

Look for the first issue this summer!

We want WBHG Monthly to be a place where anyone in the community can participate. Feel free to send us stories, photos, fun facts, or anything you'd like to contribute. We'll review each submission and let you know how and when we can include it.

For Local Business Owners

Whether your business is located within or near the 78728 zip code — or you're a Wells Branch resident who owns a business — all of our advertising plans include a free landing page and a minimum of seven days of paid ads on Facebook and Instagram. No hidden costs.

Introducing The Wells Branch Business Directory

Send us your information if you'd like your business listed, or let us know about your favorite local hidden gem so we can recommend it!

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Cassie Baker Drums & More Music School

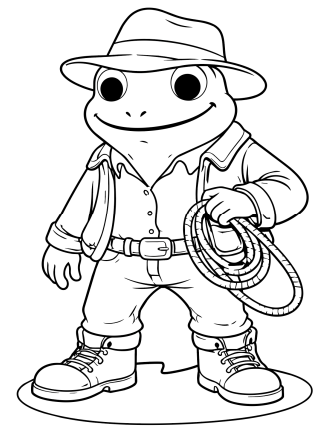
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Follow signs to the temporary entrance around the back.



Summer Reading 2026: Unearth a Story: May 30– July 31

Summer Kickoff Carnival: All ages are welcome on Saturday, May 30 from 10:30-12 for our Summer Kickoff Carnival! From firetrucks to face painting to Kona Ice, we're ready to dig into summer reading!

Fossil Hunt: Enjoy a scavenger hunt at the library, all through June in the Adult sections.

***Dinosaur Terrariums (ADULTS):** Jun 6 at 4 & 4:45pm- Build a habitat in a jar for a mini dinosaur.

***Hieroglyph Art (ADULTS):** Jun 25 at 6pm- Learn to use Egyptian hieroglyphs to write your name & create a beautiful work of art.

Film Club Fridays: Fri at 3pm Jun 26 to Jul 31– Watch various G and PG-rated films related to our Unearth a Story summer theme!

Austin Reptile Show: (all ages) We can't have a dino summer without reptiles! Austin Reptile Show is back on Jun 27 at 10:30am.

***Jurassic Park vs Real Science (ADULTS):** Jun 27 at 4pm- A special presentation with vertebrate paleontologist Bethany Burke.

Kids Programs

***Elemental Crafts:** (8-12) Mon at 4pm in May- Explore the elements through craft activities.

***Art Battles:** (8-12) Mon at 4pm in June & July– Art-based challenges to try and complete.

Puzzle Partners: (5+ w/an adult partner) Wed at 1pm in June & July– Play various puzzles week to week from jigsaw to words to Eye Spy!

***Hot Toast Music:** Hot Toast Music is returning to Wells Branch Library on Jun 18 at 1pm. Come enjoy an interactive music performance, fun for kids of all ages!

Who Would Win?: (5+) Thursdays at 5pm in June and July– Join us for lively discussions based on the popular *Who Would Win* books!

Bilingual Storytime : 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month at 1:30pm

Teens Only (10-18)

***Tie Dye:** May 9 at 2pm- BYO shirt or fabric item to decorate.

***Tiny Tails:** Jun 13 at 2pm– Come hold and pet some critters.

Teen Library Council: 1st & 3rd Sat at 2pm

Teen Talk and Craft: Wed at 3pm starting Jun 3



Ongoing Adult Programs:

Charla Chat: 1st & 3rd Sundays at 1:30pm

***Adult DIY Crafts** Wednesdays at 6pm

Puzzle Swap: First Sunday of each month at 4pm

Fiber Fun: BYO Project Sundays @ 2pm

Adult Programs

Elder Wisdom: May 5 at 2pm– The Art of Downsizing: Making Space for What Matters. Practical guidance and organization strategies with Reba Bassett of Revelation Organizing.

Traveling Tea Book Club: May 7 & Jun 4 at 6pm– Talk about the books we are reading, and drink some tea together. Nonmembers are free to join us.

Take a Break Book Club (OFFSITE): May 8 & Jun 12 at 1pm– This new book club will meet at Malone's Coffee to talk about beloved titles. In May the genre will be travel books and in June it will be favorite books from childhood. Bring a title to talk about and enjoy coffee and camaraderie with other readers.

Spice of the Month: May 9 & Jun 13 at 4pm- Pick up this month's packet and try some new recipes with it! Tell us about it at the meeting

***Magic Mirror Mosaic:** May 14 at 6 & 6:45pm– Create reflective art.

***Meditation Journaling:** May 16 at 4pm- Take an hour just for you in this calming, creativity-nourishing class.

***Introvert Happy Hour:** May 21 at 6pm- We will read silently and sip tea, with some time for optional socializing at the end.

Résumé Workshop: May 23 & Jun 20 at 10am- Get help editing & tailoring your résumé to the job you want.

***Seed Swap & Plant Clinic:** May 23 at 4pm- Bring seeds and swap them while you with Travis County Master Gardeners.

***Paint by Numbers:** May 28 at 6 & 6:45pm- Try a paint by numbers landscape!

***May Masks:** May 30 at 4 & 4:45pm- Decorate masks for the end of spring.

Elder Wisdom: Jun 2 at 2pm– Local author Doug Schwartz will lead a session on memoir writing.

***Roman Hair:** Jun 11 at 6 & 6:45pm- Learn hairstyles recreated from Roman statues.

Elder Wisdom Brainy Breaks: Jun 16 at 2pm– This month we'll try some mystery board games and play *221B Baker Street* together.

***Mindful Meditation:** Jun 20 at 4pm- Take an hour just for you in this calming, nourishing class.

*To see everything happening at the library, including our **10 weekly storytimes**,
check out our website at WBLIBRARY.ORG.*

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



**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. We're a genial group who all enjoy reading and talking about books.

This month's recommendations are, for the first time, non-fiction and both sound very different and very interesting.

Julia Weatherby, FOL Member at Large recommends:
The Texas Wildflower Primer by Andrea Delong-Amaya
Gardening in Texas is a whole different world compared to much of the rest of the country, which is why I was thrilled to open a book featuring gorgeous plants native to Texas. The lead horticulturist at the LBJ Wildflower Center, Andrea Delong-Amaya, wrote a book, "The Texas Native Plant Primer" which covers over 225 plants native to Texas. Andrea shares knowledge from the Wildflower Center and includes photos from there as well. Many of the plants featured are available at local nurseries that carry native plants or at local native plant sales or swaps.

The beginning of the book summarizes important things to know when selecting and caring for native plants. Then the rest of the book covers each plant in detail, including its preferred soil and sun level, maintenance notes and even what kind of wildlife it supports. My favorite entry in the book is about the Possumhaw Holly Tree. The photo shows just how stunning this tree can be in the winter after it drops its leaves and is covered in red berries. The berries are a favorite of cedar waxwings, mockingbirds, and robins. I highly recommend this book for those curious about what native plants might be perfect to add to your home or patio.

Nancy Loomis, FOL Secretary recommends:
All the Beauty in the World:
The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Me by Patrick Bringley
This book is a memoir about the author's time working as a security guard at the Met. His first job out of college is at the New Yorker magazine. When his beloved older brother is diagnosed with cancer, he helps care for him. After his death, he cannot face his old job and stumbles across an ad in the New York Times for the job at the Met. He grew up with an art loving mother who took the family to museums both in their hometown of Chicago and other cities. He finds solace in the mundane job and the beauty of the art. What was supposed to be a temporary respite stretches to 10 years and slowly lets him heal. He describes the museum as he immerses himself in learning about the art and history. The behind-the-scenes details, his connection with the art, the colorful visitors, and his connection with his varied coworkers make this a lovely memoir. It has inspired me to visit this museum again and I'm sure I will view the art from a different perspective.




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More Adult Programming at the Library

by Dayna Williams, Assistant Director, WB Community Library


Our Elder Wisdom series continues on Tuesday, May 5 with a special presentation by Reba Bassett of Revelation Organizing. Titled **The Art of Downsizing: Making Space for What Matters**, this program offers practical guidance and thoughtful strategies for organizing your home and simplifying your possessions—whether you're preparing for a move, navigating an empty nest, or simply ready to create more space in your life.

In June, Elder Wisdom expands to two gatherings each month. On Tuesday, June 2 at 2 pm, Doug Schwartz will lead a session on memoir writing, offering insights and encouragement for capturing your stories and experiences. Then on Tuesday, June 16, we launch our new Elder Wisdom Brainy Break series—an interactive, activity-based program designed for fun and mental engagement. The first session will focus on mystery board games, featuring 221B Baker Street, a Sherlock Holmes-inspired game that can be played collaboratively or competitively as participants work together to solve a case.


Another highlight is the new Take a Break Book Club, offered in partnership with Malone's Coffee. The group will meet on Friday, May 8 from 1–2 pm, creating a relaxed, social space for book lovers right before the afternoon school pickup window. The first discussion theme is travel—participants are invited to bring a favorite travel book, memoir, or novel set somewhere memorable and join an informal, engaging conversation. The club will meet again on June 12 at 1 pm at Malone's, with a nostalgic twist—participants are encouraged to share and discuss their favorite childhood reads.



Mary Hall-Lewis
Pet Sitting/Dog Walking



512-431-7101
mhlewis@twc.com



Wells Branch and North Austin
References Available Upon Request

Hello, Wells Branch!

My name is Mary and I moved to Wells Branch in November. I have been a pet sitter for 20 years and would love to help you with your furry friends. I offer insured pet care in your home, and have extensive experience taking care of dogs, cats, bunnies and guinea pigs. I offer overnight care in your home as well as drop-in visits. My services include walking dogs, medication administration, and general house-sitting tasks such as collecting your mail and putting out the trash if you're away on pick up day. I have two dogs, Lolo the Corgi and Arnold the Weimaraner. I love all breeds of dogs, and have owned a Siberian Husky, a Boston Terrier and a Labrador Retriever in the past. Taking care of Senior dogs is something I enjoy; I feel firmly that dogs and cats are happiest being taken care of in their own homes and love that I am able to help people meet their pet's needs when they cannot be there. I have impeccable references that I am happy to provide, and will do everything possible to make your animals feel safe, happy and healthy while you are away from home. I look forward to getting to know you and your pets!

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Shout Out for Our Extreme Clean Spring Volunteers! by Margaret McGhee-Sufke

Twice a year the Wells Branch Extreme Clean event is hosted by the WB MUD and the WBNA. This full service 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 year's spring event we collected items for the St. Andrews Food Pantry and Shelter as well as Austin Wildlife Rescue and Austin Animal Center.

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. The welcome lunch break was delicious with Thundercloud subs, chips, cookies and plenty of cold drinks.

The donation vendors are always grateful for our efforts and they appreciate the quality and quantity of our community donations. Once again we received thank you messages from the Salvation Army and Austin Creative Reuse teams. Just a quick reminder for those donating, please be sure to sort, bag and label working items. It really helps our volunteers do an effective job.

HUGE KUDOS for the recent Spring event volunteers: Shannon Black*, Ann Blocker, Dylan Cox, Alicia Fritz, David and Susan Gezana, Mary Graf, Michelle Gadush, Angela Orth, Mark Sufke, Juli Thachter and Anja Thissen. *WBNA Board Member

We will see everyone again in October. Let's work together to keep Wells Branch eco-friendly and continue to support our fragile envi-

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Saturday, July 11 | 9:30am-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 code WBMUD, or the Recreation Center zip code (78728). If entering the zip code, scroll to the option that says Wells Branch Recreation Center, and select your time to donate! <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/>

WB MUD Bulk Trash Days

Saturday, May 9 | 8am-12pm

Saturday, June 13 | 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>

If you're unable to transport items yourself, WB MUD does offer curbside service for larger items through Waste Connections. Some may require an additional fee. More information on how to request service and items allowed may be found at: <http://wellsbranchmud.com/solid-waste-services/trash-services>



Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

Wednesdays | 7:00pm | Sunrise Room

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church | 14311 Wells Port

An ongoing Narcotics Anonymous group meets in the Sunrise Room every Wednesday at 7:00pm. Anyone is welcome to drop in. It's not affiliated with the church.



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TCSO Community Town Hall (Travis County Sheriff's Office)

Thursday, May 14 | 6:30-8:30pm

WB MUD Community Center | 2106 Klattenhoff

Join officers from the Travis County Sheriff's Office for a brief presentation and question and answer session. Light refreshments will be served. Hosted by WB Neighborhood Assn. *See page 1 for details.*

Annual Disc Golf Tournament

Saturday, May 16 | 9:00am-12:00pm

WB Disc Golf Course on Owen Tech south of WB Pkwy

Join the Annual Disc Golf Tournament hosted by WB MUD Parks and Recreation in partnership with the WB Disc Golf Club! Play with the best of the best and compete for one of the incredible prizes against disc golfers of all ages. Each player will receive a custom artwork golf disc as part of their registration. All participants will be entered in to win an amazing door prize, and winners from each division will receive an award.

This event will be rescheduled in the case of inclement weather. Wells Branch Soccer Association will offer concessions as a fundraiser.

Youth Age Divisions:

6 and under | 7-8yrs | 9-10yrs | 11-12yrs | 13-15yrs | 16-19yrs

Adult Age Divisions:

20-29yrs | 30-39yrs | 40-49yrs | 50-59yrs | 60-69yrs | 70+ yrs

There is a \$25 registration fee for this event. 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 closer to the event or call 512-251-9814.

Wells Branch Garden Guild

Annual Neighborhood Garden Tour

Saturday, May 16 | 8:30-11:30am

Meet at the WB Community Garden at the corner of Town Hill and Single Trace to carpool.

Join us for a tour of several gardens in the Wells Branch neighborhood. It's an opportunity to see beautiful plants, vegetable gardens, and wildlife habitat landscapes, as well as meet other avid gardeners and discuss their gardening secrets. Visit our Facebook page to request access at facebook.com/groups/WBGardenGuild

WB MUD Memorial Day Casino Night

Saturday, May 23 | 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

Rescheduled! - Youth Disc Golf Tournament

Sunday, May 24 | 1:00-5:00pm

WB Disc Golf Course on Owen Tech south of WB Pkwy

This event is for youth ages 1 to 18. Trophies will be awarded to age division winners. Registration for the event is \$15, and includes a custom-art disc with registration. Sign up by calling the MUD at: 512-251-9814 or on the link at the MUD event site.

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

WB MUD Splash Day!

Monday, May 25 | 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 Dive-In Movie

Wednesday, June 3 | 8:00pm | *Jaws*

KF Pool | 2106 Klattenhoff Drive

Float on by to our Dive-in Movie events hosted by Wells Branch MUD Parks and Recreation! Cool off in the pool or relax poolside. 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 Movie in the Park

Friday, June 12 | 8:30pm

The Spongebob Movie—Search for Squarepants

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. 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 Juneteenth Concert

Friday, 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.



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WB Silver Branchers Social Club*

Thursdays | 1:00-3:00 pm | Room 100/101

WB MUD Rec. Center | 3000 Shoreline Drive

You are invited to join us every Thursday afternoon! Make plans to meet up with friends and neighbors to play games and have a laugh or two. Anyone 50 or older is welcome to drop in and share in the fellowship that makes the Wells Branch community such a great place to live.

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.

Watch for a list of upcoming photo ops via the WB Google Group, WBNA Facebook Page, WB Photo Club Facebook Page, and wbna.us.

WB Drop-In Mahjongg Club*

Meets every Wednesday | 6:30-8:30pm | Rm 100/101

WB MUD Rec. Center | 3000 Shoreline

Please 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. We can always use an extra game set, so please consider bringing a set if you have one.

**For questions about these clubs, contact Margaret Sufke at mmsufke@gmail.com or 208-869-5224.*

WB Democrats Club

Meets the 1st Saturday of the month at 1:00pm

WB Rec. Center | 3000 Shoreline Drive

The Wells Branch Democrats Club is a local community organization that brings together Democrats and like-minded neighbors in the Wells Branch area to stay informed, engaged, and active in civic life. The club meets **on the first Saturday of each month (except July) from 1:00-3:00pm** at the **Wells Branch Recreation Center, 3000 Shoreline Drive**, and meetings typically feature guest speakers, discussions on local and statewide issues, and opportunities to get involved in community organizing and voter engagement. Whether you're a longtime activist or simply looking to learn more and connect with neighbors, the Wells Branch Democrats Club offers a welcoming space to participate in the democratic process at the local level.*

**Not affiliated with Wells Branch MUD or Wells Branch Neighborhood Association.*



Joint Primary Run Off

The Texas primary runoff election is on Tuesday, May 26. Early voting starts on Monday, May 18 and goes through Friday, May 22.

The last day to register to vote for the runoff primary election was April 27. If you are not sure if you are registered to vote, you can check your voter registration status on the Secretary of State's web-site, <https://www.votetexas.gov/>

Travis County Voting:

You may vote at any Vote Center in Travis County where the "Vote Here/Aqui" sign is displayed. Visit <https://votetravis.gov/current-election-information/> for voting sites and hours.

Williamson County Voting:

*****Williamson County will return to Countywide voting for the May Primary Run Off election.*****
Visit <https://www.votetexas.gov/voting/where.html> for Wilco voting locations.

Please note: If you did not vote in the Primary Election in March, you may cast your vote in either party's runoff. If you did vote in the March Primary, you must cast your vote in the same party.

Couch to 5K Running

Ready to Start Running? Join Our Couch to 5K Program!

Have you ever wanted to start running but weren't sure where to begin? Our Couch to 5K (C25K) program is a supportive, beginner-friendly way to build up to running a 5K over the course of three months. Whether you're brand new to running, easing back after an injury, or just unsure of your abilities, this program is designed for you.

We'll meet every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 6:00am, starting June 1st, at the Chuck Walters Pavilion in KF Park. You're welcome to use the "C25K" app to track your progress if you'd like, but it's not required—running with the group is more than enough!

Stick around after the run for optional stretching, and feel free to bring a yoga mat if you'd like to participate. Interested or want to learn more?

Contact Jill Douglass | jdzurenko@gmail.com | 512-293-9022
Come as you are—let's take those first steps together!



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Wells Branch Wild CONSERVANCY

Spring Migration at Wells Branch: A Neighborhood Treasure

by Jill Douglass

On the long list of things that make Wells Branch special, one of my favorites is Spring Migration.

If you've noticed people with binoculars and cameras exploring our trails and wooded areas lately, you're not imagining things—and I'm clearly not alone! These enthusiastic visitors, known as birders, are flocking to Wells Branch to experience one of nature's most remarkable events.

Spring Migration is the annual journey birds make as they travel from southern wintering grounds to northern breeding habitats. Peak migration occurs in late April and early May. Each year, more than one billion birds pass through Texas during this incredible movement. About 80% migrate at night, stopping during the day to rest and refuel before continuing their journey.

Why Mills Pond Is a Birding Hotspot

Mills Pond is internationally recognized as a birding "hotspot." Alongside our year-round bird residents, spring brings the chance to see colorful warblers in breeding plumage, as well as shorebirds and waterfowl passing through.

Right here in our neighborhood, birders have logged nearly 7,500 checklists for Mills Pond on eBird, a global online database for bird sightings. That's not just a lot of visitors—it's a lot of variety, too! As of the most recent count, 238 different bird species have been observed at Mills Pond.

What Makes Mills Pond So Special?

Central Flyway location: Wells Branch lies along the Central Flyway, a major migration route for birds traveling north each spring.

A green oasis: Our community offers a lush mix of trees, shrubs, grasses, and water in the middle of an urban area. This creates what birders call a migrant trap—a place where migrating birds naturally gather to find food and shelter.

WB Wild Purple Martin Field Trip

Saturday, May 16 | 10:00am

WB North Meadow Pavilion

Curious about the Purple Martin houses in the park's north meadow? Join Wells Branch's very own Purple Martin "Landlords" and local birding experts to learn all about our neighborhood flock!

How You Can Help Our Feathered Visitors

by Jill Douglass

You don't have to be a birder to make a difference! Here are a few simple ways everyone can help support migrating and resident birds:

- Turn off outdoor lights at night to reduce stress and disorientation for migrating birds.
- Avoid using pesticides and rodenticides, which can harm owls and other wildlife both directly and indirectly.
- Help remove fishing line and trash from around Mills Pond and the greenbelt.
- Transform your yard into a wildlife-friendly habitat! Learn how to get your yard certified at nwf.org/certify.

With just a few thoughtful actions, we can keep Wells Branch a welcoming stopover for these incredible birds—and enjoy their presence for years to come.



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 2026
____ Renew membership ____ New member ____ Donation



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/

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Date: _____

Check: _____