

## **WACO NEWSLETTER, July-August, 2017**

Hello! The Woodfield Area Children's Organization has been busy getting ready for Wingfest, but we've got a lot of other things going on too. Here's an update on what's happening in July and August:

1. Wingfest – Sunday, July 30
2. School Supplies Drive – August 7-19
3. Alpaca Backpack, How About You? – Coming soon
4. Matching Donations – Will your company match your donation to WACO?
5. Thank you – (1) Armstrong Relocation finds a unique way to help WACO (2) GameWorks provides families with a morning they'll never forget
6. Thank you to our sponsors
7. Updates: (1) Book Drive (2) Scholarship Presentation (3) Summer Reading Program
8. WACO Board of Directors – WACO welcomes four new board members
9. WACO in the News



Rain or shine! Sixteen restaurants will offer an incredible array of wings as they compete for the coveted Thighsman Trophy, and the title of Best in the 'Burbs at WACO's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Wingfest.

The most fun event you'll attend all summer takes place on Sunday, July 30 from noon to 5:00 p.m. at DRINK, 871 E. Algonquin Road, Schaumburg. This year's competitors are: Adobe Gilas, Assembly Bar & Grill, Big Iron Horse BBQ, GameWorks, Garsillo's Italian Bar & Grill (formerly Ti Amo), Harold's Chicken Shack, The Hideout, JL's Pizza & Sports Bar, Moretti's, Neighborhood Inn, Rack House Kitchen/Kinfork BBQ & Tap, Real Time Sports Bar, Rosati's on Wise, Sweet Caroline's and Tap House Grill.

The Big Richards will provide the music. There will also be eating contests and a bags tournament. We've got great raffle prizes, including Cubs, White Sox and Bears tickets, a Henri Bendel tote and a Chicken Cash-atorie basket that's loaded with cash.

Wingfest is a 21 and older event. Admission is \$35 and includes all the wings you can eat and two drink tickets. Buy your tickets here: [WINGFEST](#).

There is only one cabana left for sale. It includes covered seating for 10, two drinks per guest and waitress service. In the case of rain, cabana guests will also have reserved seating inside Drink. The price is \$400. [CLICK HERE](#) for Wingfest Cabana Tickets.

Please help us spread the word about Wingfest by posting the attached flyer in your company break room, posting on your Facebook page, forwarding it to your friends and family, etc.

Wingfest is sponsored by Action Fence, Daily Herald Media Group, Schaumburg Toyota, Patrick Dealers Group, Chandler's, Chiro One and Topgolf.



WACO's annual School Supplies Drive is set to take place August 7-19.

We have reached out to several businesses to put up collection boxes. As of this writing, the following have agreed us collect the supplies.

Heartland Bank – 321 W. Golf, Schaumburg

McDonald's – 955 E. Golf, Schaumburg

McDonald's – 1775 W. Algonquin, Rolling Meadows

Patrick BMW & Mini – 700 E. Golf, Schaumburg

Patrick Cadillac & Volvo – 526 Mall Drive, Schaumburg

Patrick Hyundai – 1020 E. Golf, Schaumburg

Walk-In Closet – 107 S. Third St, Bloomingdale

Arkadin – (internal, for Arkadin employees only)

WACO thanks all of these establishments for their help with this project. For more info contact Kevin Leighty 630-415-5334 [kleighty7@gmail.com](mailto:kleighty7@gmail.com) or Linda McGill 847-209-5513 [mcgwilinator@aol.com](mailto:mcgwilinator@aol.com)



### ALPACA BACKPACK, HOW ABOUT YOU?

As some of you may know, WACO Secretary Linda McGill is also a part owner of [SafeHouse Farm Alpacas](#) in Barrington. This year some of the animals will be joining us on our float at Schaumburg's Septemberfest Parade on Labor Day. This will coincide with a new initiative "Alpaca Backpack, How About You?"

WACO plans to purchase and fill 150 backpacks for some of the children we serve. The cost is \$13.50 per filled backpack. We serve more than 1500 children, so this will barely make a dent. If you would like to contribute to the Alpaca Backpack, How About You program, please click on this button:



If you would prefer to send a check, please make it out to WACO and mail it to WACO 725 E. Schaumburg Rd., Schaumburg, IL 60194. Thank you. For more information on this project contact Linda McGill 847-209-5513 [mcgwilinator@aol.com](mailto:mcgwilinator@aol.com). Meanwhile, please come out and see us at the Septemberfest Parade.



Double the impact of your donation. Please ask your HR Department to see if you are eligible for a matching donation.

WACO is an all-volunteer organization. We do not have a brick and mortar building, so are able to use .97 of every dollar we raise to help disadvantaged children in the northwest and western suburbs. Your donation today is greatly appreciated. Use this button to donate:



If you would prefer to send a check, please make it out to WACO and mail it to WACO 725 E. Schaumburg Rd., Schaumburg, IL 60194. Thank you.



A big WACO thank you going out to Armstrong Relocation. They held a raffle at the company's recent Driver Appreciation Breakfast. The winners got various prizes, but Armstrong donated all the money collected for the tickets to WACO. That's what you call a win-win.

Thanks also to GameWorks for reaching out to families in need. In early June, several GameWorks employees arrived at work several hours before the business opened in order to welcome 20 disadvantaged families. Nearly 100 people were treated to a huge plated breakfast, along with two hours of free game play. The families were also able to bring home toys, games, clothing, toiletries and school supplies donated by GameWorks employees and many of you. Thank you one and all.



Beginning with this newsletter, we'd like to include something that's long overdue, an acknowledgement of our sponsors. These are the businesses, schools and individuals who make the major

donations, provide sponsorships and prizes for our events, offer in-kind services such as printing, postage, storage space, etc. We could not do what we do without their support. We ask you to patronize them, whenever possible.

WACO is fortunate to have more than 300 sponsors. That's too many to list here, so we will be including some with each subsequent newsletter. For now, we'd like to say thank you to our partners Identiti Resources, Weber Grill, The Patrick Dealer Group, Walmart, Action Fence, Ajax Tools, Barco Labels, Tabbies and Walk-In Closet. Thanks also to our permanent sponsors the Microsoft Store, Nation Pizza & Products, and Xertrex International. [CLICK HERE](#) to see WACO's entire list of sponsors.



Updates: As in year's past, WACO's Read to Succeed Book Drive was a big success. We collected close to 2000 children's books. We have distributed more than half of them to the agencies we support, and will make periodic deliveries throughout the year. Thanks to all who helped with this project. • In early May, WACO awarded scholarships to three outstanding high school seniors. In addition to excelling academically, each student devoted considerable time volunteering at WACO's annual Christmas shopping tours, along with multiple examples of additional community service. All three students plan to continue to do volunteer work throughout their college years. • With nearly 150 students, WACO's annual Swim into Summer Reading Program has attracted more children than even before. We are only four weeks into the eight-week program and as of this writing, not a single child has dropped out. Thanks to Weber Grill, McDonald's and Chick-fil-A for sponsoring this program.



**WACO** Please join WACO in congratulating our new board members: Clayton Black/Village of Schaumburg, Paula Brkich/Microsoft, Angie St. Paul/Metropolitan Life Insurance and Dave Yurko/Schaumburg Business Association, retired. Each of them has experience in the nonprofit sector. And along with the other eight board members will help take WACO to the next level.



WACO in the News – click on these links for our most recent media coverage:

[Scholarship Winners](#) [Travel-Size Toiletries Drive](#)

Take care and hope to see you soon,

**Geri**

Geri McCall-Barrath

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The Woodfield Area Children's Organization is an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Since 1979 WACO has been dedicated to creating positive childhood memories, providing basic needs, along with educational support for children living at or below poverty level in Chicago's northwest and western suburbs. A full 97 cents of every dollar we raise goes to help the kids. Visit our website <http://www.waco4kids.org/> or like us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/waco4kids/>. By the way, it's whack-o, not way-ko.