

## WACO NEWSLETTER, September-October, 2017

Here's what's happening with the Woodfield Area Children's Organization:

1. Alpaca Backpack, How About You? – now through September, and Labor Day Parade – Monday, September 4
2. FootballMania – Tickets available through September 5
3. Identiti Resources/WACO Golf Outing – Thursday, September 14
4. Donation Drive – Clean out your closets & turn your “trash” into cash for WACO – Sat., Sept. 16
5. New Coats for Kids – now through October 15, and Weber Grill – Bring a Coat, Get a Gift Card – October 9-15
6. Volunteer Opportunities – We need your help!
7. WACO welcomes Chuy's to Schaumburg – October 17
8. Food 4 Thought, Learning Beyond the Classroom, Kids Helping Kids, and Learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
9. Updates: (1) Wingfest (2) School Supplies Drive
10. Thank You: (1) Two guys from Microsoft go above and beyond, (2) Employees at the Microsoft Store get behind the Alpaca Backpack program (3) Wingfest volunteers
11. Thank you to our sponsors
12. WACO in the News



### ALPACA BACKPACK, HOW ABOUT YOU?

We're filling backpacks with school supplies and giving them to impoverished children in the northwest and western suburbs. If you would like to contribute to this project, the cost is \$13.50 per filled backpack.



Click on this button to donate: [WACO 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.

Meanwhile, please come cheer on WACO and our float filled with live alpacas at Schaumburg's Labor Day parade. The parade kicks off on Monday, 9/4/17 at 10 a.m. and moves north on Summit Drive from Wise Road to Stock Port Lane. We'll be handing out some great WACO magnets and of course candy for the kids.

If you would like to march with us in the parade, or for more information contact Linda McGill 847-209-5513 [mcgwilinator@aol.com](mailto:mcgwilinator@aol.com). Thank you for giving, and see you at the parade!



Just a quick note. FootballMania tickets are available thru September 5<sup>th</sup>. Click here to buy tickets online:



To purchase tickets via mail, or for any questions, please contact Clayton Black • 618.339.3115 • [clayton.black2014@gmail.com](mailto:clayton.black2014@gmail.com)



## IDENTITI RESOURCES

The Identiti Resources/WACO Golf Outing is more than 80% sold out. So if you're planning to golf or attend the dinner, don't delay. The outing is set for Thursday, September 14 at the Bridges of Poplar Creek, Hoffman Estates on Thursday, September 14.

- Round of Golf with dinner and drinks to follow: \$150 - Includes golf, cart & banquet
- Dinner and Drinks: \$65
- Check-in: 11:30 AM, followed by Lunch
- Shotgun Start: 1:00 PM
- Dinner and Drinks: 6:00 PM

**HOLE SPONSORSHIP LEVELS**

DIAMOND \$5000 - \*Includes foursome and 2 hole sponsorships.

PLATINUM \$2000

GOLD \$1000

SILVER \$500

BRONZE \$250

For information or to register contact: [registration@identiti.net](mailto:registration@identiti.net)

Fill a bag and  
make a difference!



Now is the time to clean out your closets, garages and basements! Then bring your reusable items to the garage at Patrick Cadillac, 526 Mall Drive (at Higgins), Schaumburg on Saturday, September 16 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

We accept clothing, shoes, bedding, purses, hats, gloves, mittens, belts, ties, jewelry, linens, towels, small household items, electrical items, knick-knacks, toys, games, kitchen items, sports equipment, CDs and DVDs.

**Please put the soft items into 13-gallon plastic kitchen bags, and the hard items into boxes.**

Savers will give WACO \$1000 for every 400 bags we collect. Every penny we make will be used to help impoverished children living in the northwest and western suburbs.



WACO's annual New Coats for Kids program is underway. And once again, Weber Grill has an incentive that's hard to refuse. Buy one coat or more and bring them, along with your receipt, into Weber Grill, 1010 N. Meacham, Schaumburg **between October 9 and 15**. Weber Grill will give you a gift card for the amount you spent, minus the tax. No strings! Just bring in a new coat and receipt, a get a gift card.



If you would prefer to make a cash contribution, please click on this button to donate. Thank you! WACO hopes to buy between 450 and 500 new winter coats for children in need. We're looking for boys and girls coats sizes: 12 months to 6. For further information contact Linda McGill 847-209-5513 [mcgwilinator@aol.com](mailto:mcgwilinator@aol.com).



There's no way to sugarcoat it, we really need some help. WACO is a 100% volunteer organization, and without your help we cannot do what we do. Here are some upcoming volunteer opportunities. Please consider donating your time and talent. We need you! All opportunities are 21 and older, unless stated otherwise. Here's what we need:

**Thanksgiving Food Drive – Volunteers Needed**

1. Businesses, schools, etc. to help collect food from Oct. 30 thru Nov. 17.
2. Folks to help deliver and set up collection boxes during business hours on Oct. 30-31.
3. People to help pick up all the food and load it into a truck during business hours on Friday, Nov. 17. If your company allows you to give a day to charity, please consider helping on this day.

4. 50+ Volunteers to help sort, count and distribute all the food on Saturday, Nov. 18. Students are welcome. We start promptly at 7:00 a.m. and are usually finished before 11:00 a.m.
- If you can help with any of the food drive needs, please contact Clayton Black • 618.339.3115 • [clayton.black2014@gmail.com](mailto:clayton.black2014@gmail.com)

**Toys for Tots Dinner – Volunteers Needed**  
**(We REALLY need help here!)**

1. We need some new committee members.
  2. Need people to help set up from 2-5:00 p.m. on Thurs., Dec. 14 at Belvedere Banquets in Elk Grove.
  3. Registration or raffle ticket sales from 5-7:00 p.m.
  4. Raffle ticket sales and raffle closeout from approximately 8:30-10 p.m.
- If you can help with any of the T4T dinner needs, please contact Angie St. Paul • 847.239.0461 • [astpaul@msn.com](mailto:astpaul@msn.com)

**Christmas Shopping Tours – Volunteers Needed**

1. Help take preschoolers shopping for themselves and their families, or help wrap presents on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 7:00-11:00 a.m. at Walmart in Elk Grove Village.
2. Help take preschoolers shopping for themselves and their families, or help wrap presents on Saturday, Dec. 9 from 7:00-11:00 a.m. at Walmart in Elgin.

We need hundreds of volunteers for each day. High school students are welcome. Younger children must be accompanied by an adult. All volunteers must check-in before 7:30 a.m.

- For more info about the Shopping Tours contact Art Trevino • 847.436.9697 • [turi4147@aol.com](mailto:turi4147@aol.com)

**Best Martini in the ‘Burbs Challenge – Volunteers Needed**

1. Help WACO sell raffle tickets at the Daily Herald’s Best Martini in the ‘Burbs Challenge at Drink on Monday, Dec. 11 from 5-9 p.m. All volunteers get free admission to the event.
- To sign up contact Geri McCall-Barrath • 847.891.9214 • [geri030706@gmail.com](mailto:geri030706@gmail.com)



Several new restaurants will soon be opening in Schaumburg, including Chuy’s, a Tex-Mex establishment based in Austin, Texas. WACO is very pleased to announce Chuy’s has chosen WACO to be its local charitable partner.

In anticipation of Chuy’s grand opening on October 17, there will be a special Facebook promotion where you can help WACO raise thousands of dollars with just by one simple click. Keep an eye out for the Chuy’s flyer coming soon!



Once again, WACO has signed on to sponsor Jane Addams School as part of School District 54 Foundation’s Food 4 Thought breakfast program. As a result, qualified children will receive breakfast for an entire year.

While impoverished children qualify for the federal free lunch program, schools are required to fund breakfast programs on their own. You can sponsor an individual child for \$200, or an entire school for \$10,000. For more info, contact Jennie Waldorf at 847.357.5038 • [d54foundation@sd54.org](mailto:d54foundation@sd54.org)



This summer WACO purchased and presented the Early Childhood Development Enrichment Center (ECDEC) and Family Involvement Nurturing Development & Prevention Initiative (FIND PI) in Palatine with 22 new laptops, PC's, monitors and software. Through WACO's Learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century program, both the children and their parents will be able to improve their computer skills and not lag behind their more fortunate peers.



**KIDS HELPING KIDS** Kudos to the children at the Goddard School in Schaumburg. As part of WACO's Kids Helping Kids program, they will be collecting children's clothing, toys and games and then donating them to some of the disadvantaged children WACO serves. This is the second year of this program. The first year was a huge success, so much so the school has requested twice as many collection boxes as we used last year.



### LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Field trips are great learning opportunities, and are standard fare for many preschoolers. But the agencies WACO works with simply don't have the funds to provide such luxuries. That's why we created our new Learning Beyond the Classroom program. In late June we took a busload of children to [Bison's Bluff](#) in Schaumburg. The kids had a terrific time, learned a lot, and were VERY disappointed when it came time to leave.

According to Bison Bluff's website, "A visit to the nature playground will inspire active, open-ended, creative forms of play, similar to that enjoyed by previous generations of children who grew up wandering fields, forests, and streams near their homes. The goal is to inspire today's youth to remain active, develop agility, learn resilience, discover the benefits of cooperation and experimentation, solve problems, and learn to navigate the world around them confidently."



A big WACO thank you to Microsoft's Tony Almaraz and Scott Sheehy for all their help with the Learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Program (see above). Both men made innumerable trips to ECDEC & FIND PI to help us determine what was needed, and then to get everything up and running. You guys really went above and beyond.

Thanks too, to everyone at the Microsoft Store at Woodfield Mall. The employees combined their resources to purchase, assemble and deliver 48 backpacks. Thanks Paula Brkich for spearheading this project.

And thank you to all the volunteers who helped make Wingfest a rousing success: Andrew Watts, Angie St. Paul, Bailey Miller, Bill Benedict, Brad Belfield, Brandon Scholwin, Charlie Pikscher, Chris Morrison, Clayton Black, Dave Yurko, Dusty Dukes,

Fred Race, Geri McCall-Barrath, Jane Kehoe, Jean Marie Hoffman, Jennifer Roeslmeier, Joe Rivkin, John Barrath, Josie Tatone, Kevin Leighty, Kevin Lidbury, Linda McGill, Paula Brkich, Phil Richter, Shannon Scholwin, Tami Lesniak and Veronica Mata.



WACO salutes our sponsors and asks you to patronize them, whenever possible.

Hats off to our newest sponsors: Classic Cinemas, Glanbia Performance Nutrition, Improvised Shakespeare, Jarosch Bakery, Jason's Deli, Sam & Harry's, Thai Garden, Villa Olivia, Zurich North America, Joffrey Ballet, Northwestern Athletics, Potbelly, Powell Electrical Systems, Town & Country Distributors, Townplace Suites Schaumburg, Village Links of Glen Ellyn and Wolfden Brewery.

And here's to some of our other sponsors: 10 Friends Blow Dry Style, 3 Monkeys & Aardvark Studios, Adobe Gila's, Advance Mechanical Systems, Advantage Innovations Inc., Ala Carte Entertainment, Alter Brewing, Ama Med Spa, AMC Theatres, American Girl, American Legion Post 1205, Andy's Frozen Custard, AON, Apollo Sign & Light, Arkadin, Arlington Int'l Racecourse, Armstrong Relocation, Arthur Murray Dance Ctr, Assembly American Bar & Café, Avi Resort & Casino, Bahama Breeze, Becky & Scott Modglin, Biaggi's, Big Bowl, BizCrown Media, Blackfinn American Grille, Blue Man Group, Bob Chinn's Crab House, Brookfield Zoo, Buffalo Wild Wings, Bulldog Ale House, Bulls/Sox Academy, Bungalow Joe's, Century Theaters, Charles & Betty Sicher, Cheesecake Factory, Chevy's, Chicago Bears, Chicago Blackhawks, Chicago Botanic Garden, Chicago Bulls, Chicago Cubs, Chicago Elevated, Chicago Fire, Chicago Prime, Chicago Prime Italian, Chicago White Sox and Chicago Wolves. [CLICK HERE](#) to see WACO's entire list of sponsors.



Updates: WACO's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Wingfest was a rousing success. Our profits increased by 75% over last year's record-setting event. Thanks to The Big Richards for providing the great music, to our sponsors: Action Fence, Chandler's Chophouse, Chiro One, Daily Herald Media Group, Miller-Coors, Patrick Dealer Group, Schaumburg Toyota and Topgolf, and to everyone who came out and showed your support. Click [here](#) to see the photos, and check out the article below "JL's Wins Thighsman Trophy".

With the help of Arkadin, Chick-fil-A, Epsilon, Heartland Bank & Trust, McDonald's, Patrick Dealer Group, Rep. Michelle Mussman, Rooster's, Sunstar Americas and Walk-in Closet, WACO collected more school supplies than ever before. They will be used to supplement the backpack program. Thank you to everyone who contributed.



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

[JL's Wins Thighsman Trophy](#) [School Supplies/Alpaca Backpack](#) [Diaper Drive](#)  
[Summer Reading Program](#) [Wingfest](#) [Speaking of Schaumburg](#)

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.