

### **June 2023**

### **Calendar**

06/10 Ice Cream Social 06/16 MUD Meeting 06/19 WIA Meeting 07/01 July 4th Celebration & Fireworks

### SAVE THE DATE

10/21 Women's League Bingo Night Díd you know...

If you have questions or about our subdivision, you can find most of your answers, along with a calendar of events and restrictions at:

www.waterwoodwia.hoaspace.com?

Also, there is a wealth of information exchanged at our monthly WIA Board meetings held the 3rd Monday of the month in the WIA conference room at 9am. Come get involved and stay informed!

### Links

(Click to follow)

**Waterwood Website** 

**Waterwood MUD** 

**Waterwood Pictures** 

**Classified Ads** 

Waterwood Security 936-661-2800

San Jacinto County Sheriff 936-653-4367

**WIA Office** 936-891-7710

**Waterwood MUD** 936-891-7182

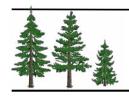
Waterwood VFD TBD

# Final Results of the Voting on Three (3) Amendments to WIA Governing Documents

The preliminary results of the three (3) amendments voted on, and read by, attorney Mitchell Katine at the May 6, 2023, Special Meeting were as follows:

Amendment 1-125 in favor, 33 Against. Amendment 2-114 in favor, 47 Against. Amendment 3-116 in favor, 46 Against. All three (3) amendments passed on a preliminary basis. Following the Saturday, May 6, 2023, meeting, the results were audited and recounted on Monday, May 8, 2023. Members who voted in the meeting were verified as property owners with the below tally being the final count and official results of the Special Meeting amendments: Amendment 1-133 in favor, 35 Against. Amendment 2-120 in favor, 47 Against. Amendment 3-122 in favor, 46 Against. All three (3) amendments officially passed. At the May 2023 Regular Monthly Meeting, the Board approved a motion to grant a grace period through September 9, 2023, for those property owners (Augusta Estates, Bay Hill, Country Club Estates 1 & 3, Greentree Village, Lakeview Estates, Park Forest Village and Whispering Pines 1 & 2) affected by the amendment to disallow short-term rentals less than 90 days.

**WIA Board of Directors** 



### **June 2023**

### **Denunciation of Racial Discrimination**

On Saturday May 6th, the HOA for Waterwood, known as WIA [Waterwood Improvement Association, Inc., or the 'Board'], held a meeting of property owners to complete the voting process for an issue of substantial importance to our community. In the days that followed, a member of our community reported an attack of vandalism, including racial slurs at his residence.

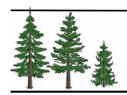
We, the WIA Board write today as leaders of this beautiful community to express deep sadness, but also anger, regarding this racist incident in our neighborhood. Sadness comes from learning that a member of our community had racial slurs written on his property. Anger was felt thinking that someone in our community may have committed this horrendous crime. We acknowledge his pain, fear, trauma and hurt. Violence hurts all of us. Living in fear hurts all of us. Racism hurts all of us too. We, the Waterwood Improvement Association Board, want our community to know that we do not tolerate nor condone words and actions that are in direct opposition to our core values that celebrate diversity, equity, and inclusion. No one should have to endure racial harassment or retaliation in our community.

In no circumstance whatsoever is the use of threats, racial slurs, or personal attacks on anyone supported by the Board of Directors of the Waterwood Improvement Association, Inc. We also stand behind any, and all efforts to identify the perpetrator/perpetrators behind this criminal act. WIA supports law enforcement officials in all efforts to arrest and punish those involved in this despicable attack and will assist in any way possible. We must come together and address all these issues but note that it would be impossible without every leader and community member being engaged as a full participant.

We must work together to keep all residents of this community safe and secure.

Sincerely,

Members of the WIA Board



### **June 2023**

### Work to Begin on the Multi-Use Building

Work to clear the lot at Park Forest Lane and Waterwood Parkway is scheduled to begin on Monday, May 29, 2023. The clearing of the lot is anticipated to take about a week, weather permitting. Please be aware that large trucks, trailers, and heavy equipment will be in the area so please be careful as you are passing by this area. Much work has already started such as preliminary building design and engineering. Once design and engineering are complete, the building structure will be fabricated. At this time, we do not have an estimated completion date.



# Waterwood has a LITTERBUG

Please help keep Waterwood beautiful!

We have a LITTERBUG within our community.

This person has no regard for Waterwood's beautiful environment or the wildflowers where the LITTERBUG choses to dispose of these bottles.

This LITTERBUG throws dozens of Sutter Home

wine bottles throughout the community weekly.

Residents and maintenance pick bottles up daily along

Waterwood parkway, in areas of Lakeview Estates,

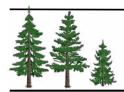
in Country Club Estates I on Doral,

Country Club Estates III on LaJolla,

And Park Forest Village.

If you see the LITTERBUG out joy riding and disposing of these wine bottles, please give security a call at 936-661-2800





### **June 2023**

# Volunteers Needed to Serve on the Waterwood Improvement Association Board of Directors

Volunteering to serve on the Board of Directors is one of the most impactful ways to improve our community. Although joining the board might look daunting, it can be well worth the effort and commitment. Members of the board should be honest, involved in the community, willing to put in the necessary time to carry out their duties and free from any conflicts of interest. We are looking for members who believe in making Waterwood a better community for all and are willing to be active in their governance roles. If this is something you may be interested in, I invite you to join me and the other members of the WIA Board of Directors in serving on the board.

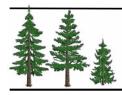
We are looking to fill four positions and once selected each board member is asked to participate on at least one committee. Each board member is required to spend a certain amount of time performing the duties required. The expectation is a three-year term beginning October 2023.

As a board member, you will be making some tough decisions, but all for the overall improvement of Waterwood. We are looking for members to join the board with a desire to apply the principles of fair play, high ethical standards, and straight forward communication. We pride ourselves on supporting each other as a team and believe that serving on the board offers an opportunity to help to improve our beautiful community.

Filling volunteer positions can be challenging due to many factors, including the numerous demands on the homeowners' time, However, a stable and active board is one of the most important components of a successful community. Our community needs board members that are eager, competent, and committed to the neighborhood. Participation can change your life and can change your community for the better. We asked that you give it some consideration and if you have any questions or concerns, please contact Phyllis Lavallais or the WIA office if you are interest in serving.

Thank you for your consideration,

Phyllis Lavallais, WIA Board of Directors, Secretary



### **June 2023**

# It's SPRINGTIME

THE ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL BOARD (ACB) HAS BEEN MAKING SEVERAL TOURS WITHIN EACH NEIGHBORHOOD IN WATERWOOD. WITH ALL OF THE RAIN, THE GRASS IS GROWING LIKE CRAZY. THE ACB IS REQUESTING THAT EVERYONE TAKE A LOOK AT THEIR YARD AND PLEASE MOW IT IF THE GRASS IS GETTING HIGH. THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO KEEP FROM RECEIVING AN ACB LETTER. FRESH CUT GRASS MAKES EVERYONE'S SUBDIVISION LOOK MORE MAINTAINED.

IF YOU ARE A WATERCRAFT OWNER, PLEASE PLACE YOUR BOAT OR JET SKI(S) IN YOUR GARAGE OR CARPORT. PER DEED RESTRICTIONS, THEY MUST BE SCREENED FROM VIEW OF STREET, LAKE, GOLF COURSE OR ADJOINING LOTS.

ALSO, THANK YOU TO THOSE THAT KEEP THEIR YARDS MOWED AND MANICURED.

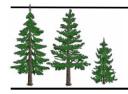
### LARGE ITEM PICKUP!!!

Large Item Pickup is the FIRST Monday of EVERY month. For those of you needing to get rid of items in your carports, garages, or beside your houses, this is a good time to do some spring cleaning!! Drag those washers and dryers out to the curb and have maintenance haul them away for you!!!!

Call the office (936-891-7710) to get put on the pick up list. Please keep in mind that maintenance DOES NOT pick up concrete, building/construction materials, paint, chemicals, tires, electronics, TVs, carpet, dirt or rocks. You can contact the County Compactor at 936-377-2871 to dispose of other items that they may accept.

Also, maintenance DOES NOT pickup household garbage, so please do not place those items or garbage bags with those items at your curb expecting maintenance to pick them up.

Waterwood is still the best kept secret on Lake Livingston!



### **June 2023**

### Waterwood Women's League Awards Scholarships By Maryann Readal, WWL Scholarship Chair

The WWL recently awarded an academic and a technical scholarship to deserving seniors from Coldspring Oakhurst High School and Onalaska Junior Senior High School. The Scholarship committee, Maryann Readal, Sally Charlton, and Mattie Licciardoni, interviewed 13 applicants from both schools for the awards.



The four-year academic scholarship, valued at \$8,000, was awarded to Jaden Griffith from Coldspring Oakhurst High School. Jaden will be attending the Milwaukee School of Engineering, and plans to major in computer science. Jaden was one of the leaders on the school's championship robotics team. Teachers described Jaden as bright, a leader, dedicated, and motivated.

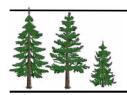
The \$1,000 technical scholarship was awarded to Chloe Anstee from Onalaska Junior Senior High School. Chloe will be attending Lone Star

College/Montgomery and plans to become a radiology technician. Teachers described Chloe as a perfectionist, diligent, determined, and one who makes a difference.

The Women's League is currently supporting Mattie Adams from Onalaska Junior Senior High School with a \$1,200 a year academic scholarship. Mattie will be a sophomore at Texas A&M in the fall and is majoring in Poultry Science.

Ashley Bell from Onalaska Junior Senior High School graduated from Texas A&M this spring. Ashley majored in Multidisciplinary Engineering Technology with a minor in Japanese and Embedded Systems Integration. Ashley received the WWL's academic scholarship in 2019.

The Waterwood Women's League is proud to support these outstanding young people with our scholarships. A team of dedicated League members create and sell handcrafted items at Huntsville and Coldspring events and will host a fundraising bingo and silent auction on October 21 in order to raise funds for our scholarships. The Women's League thanks everyone in Waterwood for supporting efforts to make a difference in our community.



**June 2023** 



# I Scream You Scream We All Scream



For Ice Cream

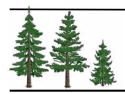


Ice Cream Social

June 10

1-3 PM

WIA Conference Room



**June 2023** 



11 am - 1 pm - Luncheon in the WIA Pavilion

Sponsored by the WNGRA

Golf Cart / Bike Parade & Decorating Contest

6:30 - 9:30 - Party at the Marina

WIA's Awesome Fireworks Show

# SATURDAY | JULY 1ST

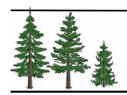
The firework display at the marina has been along standing tradition in Waterwood, Waterwood over the years has had the best fireworks show on Lake Livingston this has been made possible by generous donations from the community.

I am asking that we continue this tradition. Please Donate.

Anyone donating \$50 or more will receive two free meals

Donations can be made in the WIA Office.

Thank You, Larry Westerdahl (Social Chair)



### **June 2023**

### Keith's Corner: Waterwood Maintenance

This column has two subjects. The first is somewhat of a Repeat, and there is a reason for this.

At the time the January 2023 column was written WIA was working on a legal means to obtain the ability to handle a tree situation in any instance where the property owner of the 'bad tree' wouldn't or couldn't remedy the problem. There is bad news on that front. It turns out that there is insufficient language in the governing documents to allow WIA to deal with any situation in which a danger from a vacant lot exists. The good news is that we can add such language; I have already written a prototype section that can be added. Unfortunately that takes time, because the language has to be written, then reviewed by WIA's Legal Team, then put to a vote of the people. So this language will take some time to become useful. So, the contents of the January '23 Newsletter column are repeated here, with a change or two, because as of now, for at least several months, neighbors must handle these situations directly with neighbors.

This column is intended to help those of us with a 'tree situation.' This means any situation where a neighbor's tree is in a condition where it poses a threat to you or your property.

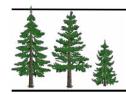
Our forest out here is beautiful, but it has experienced a lot of stress over the years. So there are trees nearly everywhere that have problems. Dead trees, sick trees, leaning trees, rotting trees. Any of these in the wrong location can pose a danger to your property.

So, what do you do when this happens?

Here are the steps you should take when you have a 'tree situation:'

- 1. Find out who owns the property with the 'bad tree.'
- 2. This is done by calling WIA. Lisa or Kathy can usually give you this information.
  - A. Give them the address of the property in question; this can save lots of time.
  - B. WIA can usually give you the contact information for the property owner.
- 3. Take pictures of the tree. Try to show the danger clearly, taking multiple angles if necessary.
- 4. Call your own insurance company and inform them. Send them the pics, just in case.
- 5. Contact the property owner.
  - A. Describe the situation in common sense, reasonable terms.
  - B. Be factual and not accusatory, not emotional.
  - C. Send the pictures so that they see the reason for the problem.
  - D. In polite language, definitively ask the property owner to take care of the issue.
  - E. Asking is important. If you don't ask, they may not ever volunteer to fix it.
  - F. Give the property owner your best guess as to the time frame needed for action.

Continued...



### **June 2023**

### ...continued

- 6. (A NEW STEP) If there is no response, or a "NO" response, contact the other property owner by certified mail and copy your insurance agent once again.
  - A. If you have difficult neighbors, this can be your first step, but it is recommended that you try the friendly approach first.
  - B. The contents of this contact are exactly as stated above with the exception of the next bullet down.
  - C. If this is your second try, add that you contacted them previously on [whatever date] by e-mail, letter, carrier pigeon, etc whatever means you used before

The certified letter is your best chance of getting results. This helps you fulfill certain legalities that you may need. Your insurance company, when copied on all this, can help you substantially.

If the property causing you a problem is owned by WIA, as are a few of the properties in *The certified letter is your* best chance of getting results. This helps you fulfill certain legalities that you may need. Your insurance company, when copied on all this, can help you substantially.

If the property causing you a problem is owned by WIA, as are a few of the properties in Waterwood, we will know this when you call to ask who the owner is. For WIA properties, the answer is easy for you. It is our responsibility as the property owner, and we will take care of it. (WIA just took care of such a situation last week.) We will of course try to be thrifty with the work, so we may try to get 'your' work done in combination with other tree work in the area. This might take longer than you would want, but be patient. We will get it done in good time. For example, we are actively working on a tree situation on a WIA property as this is being written.

### (New subject) **LEAVES and DEBRIS pickup**

One other note. This is a reminder for all of us who have debris or yard waste to have picked up on each Monday.

### The yard debris system works like this:

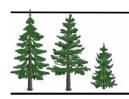
- Security drives the entire subdivision on Sunday afternoon, as per their usual practice.
- On Sunday afternoon, as they circulate, they make a list of every address on which leaves and debris are set out.
- Our landscape contractor uses this list on Monday morning when they drive around and pick up your yard debris.
- If there is no debris listed on a given street, they will probably not drive that street.
- If there is debris out on a lot which is not listed, you are counting on debris pickup guys to go the extra mile for you. Sometimes they will, sometimes they won't. They're human.
- This means that you should have your bags and debris out on your curb sometime *during Sunday daylight hours at the latest*. Sunday twilight / night is too late: how can Security see your pile of debris in the dark?
- Where is the debris taken? It goes out to what we call the Trailer and Debris storage area, off of Waterwood Parkway on the opposite side of West Rosewood. As this area fills up with debris as the weeks go by, we periodically have this area cleaned out by another contractor for off-site disposal.

### This tells us a few things which will likely result in your debris NOT being picked up:

Don't expect to have your debris picked up if you rush it out to the curb on Monday morning. Or Sunday night after dark, for that matter. It won't be on the list.

Don't put your debris next to a vacant (forested) lot. Put it out on your own lot. (Why? Debris on a vacant lot can easily be confused with random debris from storms, etc. Also, how can Security list the correct address for a vacant lot?) These guidelines are especially important after big storms, due to the high volume of debris.

Thanks to all for cooperating with us on this issue. Debris pickup is not a right; WIA supplies this through a paid contractor. It's one of the nice things about living out here. The least we can do is help the system out by cooperating as best we can.



# June 2023

















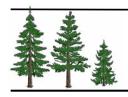




Fun at the Waterwood Annual Spring Fling May 6, 2023!







### **June 2023**

### Waterwood National Golf & Recreation Association (WNGRA)

YOU'RE INVITED! The 2nd Qtr Meeting of the Waterwood National Golf & Recreation Association (WNGRA) Board is scheduled for Saturday, June 3rd 2023, 1pm in the WIA Conference Room. Calvin E Bailey, Alex Chrestopoulos, and I will provide a general update on activities and financial status for the organization. I received some positive news recently from the Waterwood Ownership team which will help our fundraising efforts immensely. I will make an announcement at the meeting. Members and those interested in becoming Members are welcome to attend. If you are not a Member, please consider joining the group. Membership is \$35. That's about a dollar per day, for unlimited golf, access to our community's amazing greenspace amenity, walking trails, and social events. The success of any organization is driven by the talent and resources of its membership. We hope to see you at the meeting.

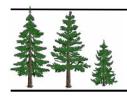
Your Board,
Alex - Treasurer
Calvin - VP Operations
Al - President

The Auxiliary for our VFD asked Chief Robbie what we could use as a fundraising goal and this was his response:

"It would be around \$2,400 for iPads and accessories for reporting, training purposes. Two of these would be mounted in the apparatus."

So folks, that is our goal. Every 50/50 raffle and every cotton candy sold will go towards meeting the goal. Speaking of raffle and cotton candy, our next event will be at the 4th of July celebration to be held on Saturday, July 1st this year. The Auxiliary cannot continue to function with so few volunteers and we are asking you to please consider joining us.

You can contact me at <u>carole.magee@gmail.com</u> Thank you. We look forward to celebrating with you.



### **June 2023**

### **LCS Fibercom Construction Update**

### Hello Waterwood!

We are ramping up the connections on the east side of 980 as we hit the home stretch. 95% of the primary construction is complete. In May we installed the main cable along the full length of LaJolla, Pebble Beach, Augusta and Lakeview Estates. This allows us to bring service to those areas soon. We are actively connecting homes in Lakeview Estates, Country Club Estates 3 (LaJolla), and continuing to connect the remaining homes on Doral as well as new requests in areas we already serve west of 980.

For June we will be connecting 5-10 homes per week in the Doral, LaJolla, LVE, Pebble Beach/Augusta and Bay Hill/St. Andrews areas as we work toward finishing the project up soon. July's goals are to bring the main line to Bass Boat Village, Fairway One, and Putter's Point to begin connections in those areas.

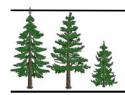
Jamie Groskopf LCS Fibercom, LLC

# **HURRICANE GUIDE 2023**

Courtesy of Mike Duffy, WIA Director

https://www.weather.gov/hgx/HGX Hurricane Guide 2023 (English)

https://www.weather.gov/hgx/HGX Hurricane Guide 2023 Spanish (Spanish)



### **June 2023**

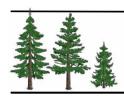
# Wildlife of Mahaual, Mexico!

Photos and article courtesy of Steve Heide

This is the narrative from Victor Rosales, the gentleman doing all these programs. Victor is a retired Mexican Army Special Forces Ranger whose roots brought him back to Costa Maya/Mahaual. His Mayan ancestry is evident by his love of the jungle and the Caribbean and the critters that live in both. Victor is also a private tour guide who speaks English, professional photographer, Mayan History and Architecture expert. His expertise also includes locating and photographing jungle birds with tours for amateur bird watchers. The photographs show a local Jaguar attempting to enter the Jaguar proof dog/animal shelters. Victor is wearing a blue shirt in one photo.



Learn more about this Jaguar program on the next page!



### **June 2023**

# Wildlife of Mahaual, Mexico!

### ...continued from previous page

Hello everyone! Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share the work that we have done with the local community including our volunteers and everyone else that helped us directly or indirectly. If you have been in and around Mahahual you may have heard about the Jaguars coming too close to houses? As we continue work in turtle monitoring, we also started Jaguar monitoring and the first Jaguar we documented on a trail camera was 4th of May 2019. Sadly, that Jaguar was killed three months after we recorded the animal. In 2020 we received 20 trail cameras, and we started a new project of studying Jaguar behavior and movements. The results after 3 years were very interesting as there is only one Jaguar who remains all year on the coast. How do we distinguish one Jaguar from another? One way is by examining the Jaguar's rosettes — the dotted spots on their bodies — which are uniquely patterned, like human fingerprints. To help with identification, we often pinpoint a rosette that looks like something memorable. The photos in the video show the rosettes that we use to identify the animal. The Jaguars are an endangered species in Mahahual Quintana Roo and the Yucatan. We lose at least one Jaguar every two years but why do people kill them? Fear? Many people are so afraid of this cat that if they can, they will kill this beautiful animal.

Deforestation rates are high in the Peninsula of Yucatan due to logging and to clearing space for cattle ranching. Resorts and new urban areas also contribute to the loss of Jaguar habitat. This results in many new threats to Jaguars, from the loss of their homes to isolating their populations, making breeding harder. Less habitat also means Jaguar's prey is reduced. This leads them to hunt livestock or dogs and be killed by people. They're also vulnerable to poaching, despite this being illegal.

We are trying as much we can to help this beautiful cat! We have built Jaguar proof dog houses with the help of IFAW to avoid conflicts. We teach the local community children and adults about the Jaguars behavior and how we can coexist. The Jaguars come every year from the Mangroves and jungle to the beach to hunt for turtles which is their natural prey. But now there are dogs that are an easy prey and there is one Jaguar who learned that even when there are no turtles, the Jaguar can survive on the coast eating dogs.

We have to learn very quickly how to coexist with Jaguars otherwise the king of the Mayan jungle will become a great legend story.

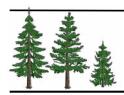
Article and photos submitted by Steve Heide (Thanks Steve for these photos and information!)



Did you know there is a Facebook page for those who may be looking to find homes for stray dogs?

Check out the page at the link below!

https://www.facebook.com/groups/4 18193832091156



**June 2023** 



# Classifieds



Palmer Real Estate is a locally owned and operated boutique real estate agency ready to meet all your Real Estate needs from residential sales to property management. Consistently ranked Number One by the Houston Association of Realtors MLS in properties sold in Waterwood for over 20 years.



### Waterwood News Classified Ads now being accepted

Do you want to advertise your business, rental, or make a business announcement in our monthly newsletter? Reach 400 plus, and growing, subscribers!!

Send ads to: News.waterwood@gmail.com

\*Ad payments must be received in the WIA office before publication. Payments can be made in person or mailed to the WIA office at: 62 Waterwood, Huntsville, Texas 77320.

# Classifieds



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Advertisements are \$10 per month or \$100 per year.