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INSIDE WILLOW FORK DRAINAGE DISTRICT



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Pedestrian Underpass to Benefit Students, Residents

An approximate \$381,000 pedestrian underpass at Westheimer Parkway just west of Cinco Ranch Blvd. is set to break ground next month. The project will create a safe crossing under a high-traffic roadwy for students walking and biking to nearby schools and residents wanting pedestrian access to Central Green and Williow Fork parks, LaCentera and the Cinco Ranch Library, further enhancing connectivity of the District's recently expanded trail system. A study by the District's engineer LJA documented an average daily traffic count of nearly 23,000 cars at the point where the existing trail intersects Westheimer. Knowing that pedestrians and cyclers often cross mid-block rather than take sidewalks to the nearest intersection, potentially endangering themselves if misjudging oncoming vehicle speed or the time it takes to safely cross. WFD is funding this project as part of an overall trail safety plan that also includes 11 mid-block crossing and wayfinding signage across the District. Read more on WFDD's trail system on our website.

Read More



Shade Structure Expands 'Rain or Shine' Programming

Visitors to Central Green will soon see a new shade structure over the stage that will help shield performers from the sun, allow for rain or shine set up, and protect equipment more effectively. "Many times I have called an evening event due to daytime showers that have left the stage wet or damp, only to have visitors show up later asking why we cancelled when the rain had passed," sald Parks General Manager "Yonne Arceneaux. "The structure will keep the stage dry, allowing us to prepare for night events even if we have rain during the day." Another benefit will be the ability to host larger acts in the summer, which before was not possible due to the direct sunlight and heat exposure during the hours it takes to set up. Classes held on the green will now also have the option to meet on stage when a shaded or covered area is preferred. While events are still limited in size to meet COVID-related guidelines, we are hosting tai chi, yoga, laughter yoga, story time, beginner adult Spanish and camps. <u>Check out Central Green's calendar</u> for the latest upcoming programming and events.

Check it Out!

Pigs are friendly creatures? Hogwash!



Read on...this article is not boar-ing! Wild pigs are one of the top 100 invasive species in the world and the nation's most abundant free-ranging hoofed animal, with an estimated population of 6.9 million —2.6 million of which are estimated in Texas alone. Also known as feral hogs, they most often emerge at night,

leaving residents to unearth their damage at daybreak. "We are working with HOAs, residents, and game management experts to combat the feral hog problem in our area, recently granting permission to Texas WildGame Systems to access District property for hog trapping," said Wendy Duncan, WFDD President. Wild pigs forage in residential areas during times of drought, damaging landscaping, fencing and irrigation systems. In WFDD, pigs come from Barker Reservoir and George Bush Park, tearing up park facilities, golf courses, common areas, and nearby neighborhoods like Kelliwood and Cinco Ranch. Their large-scale soil disturbance—estimated at 6.5 square feet in just one minute by one pig—increases soil erosion along drainage channels and results in residential property damage. Wild pig-vehicle collisions can also result in significant auto damage as well as human injury and death. With property owner consent, Texas law allows hunting of destructive feral hogs without a license. For more information on trapping and wild hog removal, contact Texas WildGame Systems at towildsamesystems@yahoo.com or 832-349-0123.

If you find this information helpful, please forward to your neighbors.

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