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Community News

Junior Police Graduation Day

by Richard Starck



This year was my introduction to the Junior Police Academy. Watching the [graduation day parade](#) as the boys and girls marched into Central Park raised goose bumps on my arms. I was astounded! As the platoons settled on the ground, the leaders, primarily active police volunteers, asked questions, gave their final advice, and praised the troopers for a job well done.

The shouted and uniform responses from all platoons indicated the level of

July 4th Week



Independence Day invokes a lot of memories. Throughout our history, we have had to fight to keep our freedom. As the people of Wellsburg begin a week-long celebration, they take a moment to honor our fallen heroes.



Central Park became a focal point when

training offered, nay demanded, by the instructors. The week-long academy is not your lazy summer camp. The kids must work (physical and mental) to learn and progress. I consider it vital to offer praise only when earned. The instructors not only concur with my policy but have improved on it by giving abundant kudos at every appropriate opportunity.

It was easy to see those who finished were proud of their accomplishments. I was already a proud resident of Wellsburg, but now the Junior Police Academy has raised the bar another notch. I wish every town and city could offer similar youth programs. Our country would be a better place. My thanks go out to all the volunteers that made this possible. Great Job!



It's only fitting that those who endured the training, get to ride on a July 4th float. Congratulations all.

Angels Among US

Many people love Wellsburg and give, never asking for recognition or thanks. The Angels Among Us column will tell their story and offer thanks for their contributions. If you know of such an Angel, email their story to us at admin@mywellsburg.com.

the committee erected a portable stage and invited various bands to perform during the week. Food vendors line Main Street and serve the crowds. What other small town can claim the percent turnout that Wellsburg sees? I love Wellsburg.



The day of July 4th begins with the raising of the American Flag and is followed by the Oil Can Derby, always a favorite!



The week culminates with a long long parade and of course fireworks. Many cities claim parades and fireworks, but Wellsburg's week-long celebration sets it apart from the crowd.

City of Wellsburg

\$70,000 Grant

The URA reported that it has successfully secured \$70,000 through the Opportunity Appalachia grant for predevelopment work on the Bell Buildings. The renovation of these properties is estimated to generate \$3.9 million in sales, support 23 jobs directly, and generate \$1.3 million in labor income. Small business and rental activity will provide ongoing economic benefits to the region. Total impacts from the retail, restaurant and rental activities are estimated to generate \$898,000 in local sales and support 13 jobs and \$369,500 in labor income.

The grant will enable the URA to engage a firm to guide us on several issues. The result will be a report on how best to restore and configure each building keeping the historic nature intact, analyze long-term effects and benefits to the community, recommend an approach to market each structure, and offer suggestions on how best to fund the construction and marketing.

\$15,000 Grant

The URA reported that it has successfully secured \$15,000 in AARP grant funding, which will be used for the repair and beautification of Wellsburg's Historic Town Square, an underutilized public space in our community. This space is a pedestrian city block with brick pavers, and the main access point for various buildings, including City Hall. Proposed improvements include the restoration and leveling of existing brick pavers on Town Square; the addition of tables, chairs, umbrellas, and trash receptacles; the enhancement of accessibility with artistic crosswalks; and additional beautification through murals painted in the windows of the adjacent vacant buildings.

Police Department's New Home

OK, I admit my crystal ball overheated when asked to predict a completion date for the Police Department's new office. I further acknowledge that to meet my predicted schedule, I volunteered to help and found myself hanging wallpaper for the first time. I can't believe they want me back to finish the job.

I've learned my lesson. I will not promise pictures until the job is done.

The Police Chief did reiterate his offer of an open house when all is right with the world.

Newsletter Bits & Pieces

Letters to the Editor

Email your letter with your name, city, and daytime phone number for confirmation. No anonymous or un-confirmed letters will be published. We do not publish personal attacks on individuals or businesses and we reserve the right to edit or reject any letter submitted for publication. Letters must be limited to 500 words. If a letter is accepted for publication, we alone determine when it will be published.

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Publication Schedule

Effective with the May 2022 issue, the My Wellsburg Newsletter will be published on the third Wednesday of each month.

Newsletter Objectives

The objectives of this newsletter coupled with the My Wellsburg website are to engage people, businesses and organizations in the revitalization efforts of Wellsburg and to keep the community informed of news, activities, and events in the area.

By opening two-way communication with the Wellsburg community, we hope to find those with the desire to renovate our city. There will be many opportunities to express your thoughts on what Wellsburg can become.

If you're not satisfied with the status quo and you're willing to expend some effort to fix it, send me an email and let's get started.

[Email Rick Starck](#)

List Your Property

If you have a property for sale or rent in our community, you can have a **FREE** listing on our website. Visit [MyWellsburg.com](https://mywellsburg.com) and complete the listing form. Be sure to include your email address and daytime phone number so we can verify the listing.

Real Estate Brokers contact us for your Wellsburg area listings. Email admin@mywellsburg.com to indicate you're interested, and we will take it from there. We will automatically gather the listings from your website and show your company name and principal.

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