

A stylized illustration of a sailboat with blue and white sails on a sunset lake. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm orange and yellow glow. The sailboat is positioned to the left of the main title.

Lakeway VOICE

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April is Water Conservation Month

Written by Stephanie Threinen, Public Information Liaison, LMUD. Earl Foster is the General Manager of LMUD.



Recently, we've all faced the panic of supply shortages. Many of the commodities we previously took for granted were not as readily available. Stores were faced with rethinking their supply and demand framework, putting strict limits on the items people

were all of a sudden buying in bulk. It strained our system and consumers were charged with rethinking convenience. It brings up the question: what else do we take for granted and how can we help ensure adequate resources for all? In recognition of April as Water Conservation Month, as a water provider – the supplier of one of the most necessary commodities in the world, and yet highly underappreciated – we'd like you to consider the stance of "Take only what you need."

Think about this: water is vital to all life on Earth, yet there is no viable way to manufacture it. Almost the same amount of water that existed from the beginning of time exists today, but where it is in the water cycle and how humans interact with it determines the amount available for use. Technologies now exist that allow water operators to clean just about any water to drinking standards, but even routine treatment of a reliable raw water source takes a multi-step process and continual monitoring that can be expensive and time consuming.

Historic data shows that Lake Travis - Lakeway's only source for raw water, which is cleaned to drinking water standards - is in a constant state of drought, dotted by floods. Local water providers, like Lakeway Municipal Utility District (LMUD), aim to supply an adequate amount of drinking water throughout the year to accommodate the community's demand during wet seasons as well as the long, hot summers when usage increases. Thanks to the strategic planning initiatives of these local water providers, our community faces minimal water shortages, even in times of drought. However, strains on the system caused by extended drought or heightened use are possible.

Authorities are confident that what's going to pull us through the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) epidemic is preventative measures implemented by the masses. In this way, we are not only looking out for ourselves, but our neighbors and beyond. We're realizing now more so than ever that we are all connected. If the actions of a few people in a small, remote town in China can impact the world, consider the impact each of us can make on our own community. You matter. Your actions matter.

You turn on the faucet in your kitchen and clean water comes out. Your bathtub readily fills with warm water. Your toilet flushes. Your sprinklers keep your grass green. We use water for

so many purposes each and every day, but the people and the processes behind the system that make that convenience possible are overlooked. The more you understand, the more you gain an appreciation for what was once taken for granted.

If we each take only what we need – from water usage to shopping habits and freely given handouts – how can we impact our own life? Our community? The world? If you take less, maybe you'll be able to give more.



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Ambulance	911
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Sheriff – Non-Emergency.....	512-974-0845
Travis County ESD No.6/Lake Travis Fire Rescue Administration Office.....	512-266-2533
Travis County Animal Control.....	512-972-6060

SCHOOLS

Lake Travis ISD.....	512-533-6000
Lake Travis High School.....	512-533-6100
Lake Travis Middle School.....	512-533-6200
Lake Travis Elementary.....	512-533-6300
Hudson Bend Middle School	512-533-6400
Lake Pointe Elementary.....	512-533-6500
Lakeway Elementary	512-533-6350
Serene Hills Elementary	512-533-7400
Bee Cave Elementary.....	512-533-6250
West Cypress Elementary	512-533-7500

UTILITIES

Travis County WCID # 17.....	512-266-1111
Lakeway MUD	512-261-6222
Hurst Creek MUD.....	512-261-6281
Austin Energy	512-322-9100
Pedernales Electric.....	888-554-4732
Texas Gas Service Custom Service.....	1-800-700-2443
Emergencies.....	512-370-8609
Call Before You Dig.....	512-472-2822

AT&T

New Service.....	1-800-464-7928
Repair.....	1-800-246-8464
Billing.....	1-800-858-7928

Time Warner Cable

Customer Service.....	512-485-5555
Repairs.....	512-485-5080
Progressive Waste Solutions (Trash & Recycle)	512-282-3508
Austin/Travis County Hazardous Waste	512-974-4343

OTHER NUMBERS

Baylor Scott & White Medical Center.....	512-571-5000
VIK Complete Care	512-527-6247
Lake Travis Community Library.....	512-263-2885
Lake Travis Postal Office.....	512-263-2458
Lakeway City Hall.....	512-314-7500
City of Lakeway	www.lakeway-tx.gov

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The Women's Club of Greater Lakeway



The Women's Club of Greater Lakeway was delighted to have Cecilia Abbott, First Lady of Texas, as guest speaker on Monday, February 24.

Mrs. Abbott has devoted her life to serving others. She has been a teacher, vice-principal, and principal at several Catholic schools across Texas, and later worked in senior health care services.

Mrs. Abbott currently serves on the board of several educational organizations and is an active member of many philanthropic groups. Her signature initiative as First Lady combines the two things that she is most passionate about — Texas and philanthropy. She calls it Texanthropy, and through it she promotes volunteerism and service to others across Texas. Mrs. Abbott has also partnered with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services on a similar initiative — Network of Nurture — to raise awareness about the ways Texans can support the children and families in the state's child welfare system.

Mrs. Abbott has been married 38 years to the Governor of Texas, Greg Abbott. With her husband's election as Governor, she made history by becoming the first Hispanic First Lady of Texas.

Help Make the World a Better Place

Did you know that by opening your home to a foreign exchange student you are taking on the role as a diplomat of the United States? Its true! Hosting a teenager from another country is form of public diplomacy – it gives both the host family and the student an opportunity to learn from each other, exchange cultural experiences and most of all, form life-long relationships.

All that is required of a host family is to provide three meals a day, a place for the student to sleep and a little bit of TLC thrown in. Students can share a room with a same sex sibling that is within three years of their age. The students all come with their own spending money, health insurance and an eagerness to be part of your family.

STS Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, is looking for volunteer host families for the 2020/2021 school year. We accept all different types of families, from single parents, to newly marrieds, to empty nesters to same sex couples. The application process is simple, once you are completely vetted, you will have access to our student database where you can select the student that best fits in with your family.

If you would like to find out more about hosting one of our wonderful students, please contact Vicki Odom at (832) 455-7881 or email at vicki.stsfoundation@yahoo.com. I can get you started in helping to make the world a better place to live.

WHAT'S THE BEST 55+ COMMUNITY FOR YOU?

Free Seminars to Provide 'The Truth About 55+ Senior Living Options'

There are a potentially confusing array of housing options for senior adults in the Austin area. But, how do you choose what is best for you? What questions to ask? What information to evaluate?

Would you be better off in an active adult community, an independent living community, an assisted living residence, or a continuing care retirement community? And, what are the financial considerations for each?

These and other options will be discussed by a panel of experts in two seminars scheduled for April as part of the continuing 55+ Seminar Series.

"More and more retirees of all ages are relocating to active adult and senior living communities," said seminar moderator Cyndi Cummings of the Austin Senior Resource Alliance. "During this 90-minute panel discussion, you will learn the facts about local 55+ living options from some of the most knowledgeable and experienced professionals in the industry."

"The Truth About 55+ Senior Living Options" seminars will be April 9 at Twin Oaks Branch, Austin Public Library, 1800 South 5th Street and April 21 at Laura Bush Community Library, 9411 Bee Caves Road. Both seminar sessions will begin at 10:30 a.m.

Cummings provided a brief summary of some of the options available to senior adults, depending on their age, their health and their financial situation. The seminars will cover locations, amenities, and costs for both purchase and lease options for those 55 and older.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) created an exemption called the Housing for Older Persons Act (HOPA), which protects senior housing communities from being sued for age discrimination by those under the minimum age requirement.

In order to qualify for this HOPA exemption, a senior housing facility or community must be:

- Designed and operated to accommodate "elderly" persons (in accordance with a State or Federal program),
- or
- Exclusively occupied by persons 62 years of age or older,
- or
- Intended and operated for occupancy by persons 55 years of age or older (so-called "55 and over" communities).

Active adult (55 and over) communities aren't much different than any other residential community, aside from their age requirements, but most are designed with a retirement-friendly, low-maintenance lifestyle in mind. These communities can be comprised of single-family houses, as well as multi-family patio homes, condominiums, or townhomes, with units that are owned by the resident (as opposed to a rental community).

Interior maintenance and daily upkeep are the responsibility of the homeowner within active adult communities; however, low-maintenance or maintenance-free exteriors are usually provided,

paid for by the resident through their monthly home owners' association (HOA) dues.

Unlike some other senior living options, active adult communities do not have on-site dining facilities for residents, nor do they provide any type of healthcare services.

Independent living communities are sometimes referred to as retirement communities. Older adults can rent or buy their own units in one of these. Meals often are included. Housekeeping, laundry, and transportation may be available, as well. Most residents can take care of themselves. They don't need help with daily tasks, such as bathing, getting dressed, or taking medicine.



Assisted living residences are similar to independent living communities. However, they also offer personal care services to residents in need. These may include bathing, getting dressed, or taking medicine. Some residences include special units for people who have early- to middle-stage dementia.

Continuing care retirement communities feature a variety of residences on a large campus. Residents can choose independent living, assisted living, or nursing home services. As their needs change over time, they can move to a residence that offers more assistance or medical care.

These communities allow older adults to live in one place for the rest of their lives. This is the most expensive of all senior living options since residents must be able to sign a contract and pay for services now which will be used at a later date.

There is no cost for those age 55 or older to attend "The Truth About 55+ Senior Living Options." Registration for professionals is \$25. Reservations can be made online at www.55PlusSeminarSeries.com or by calling 512-937-2772. Space is limited, and pre-registration is recommended.

These sessions are part of the monthly 55+ Seminar Series designed to give those in the mature community a chance to learn about and discuss topics related to aging.

Cummings is the founder of the Austin Senior Resource Alliance and president of The Cummings Home Team and Turnkey Transitions™. She is considered a leading authority on issues related to downsizing, late-life moves and (55+) senior living solutions.

Around Lakeway

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2020 Aging Adult Seminar Series

April 13: Dr. David Murdy, Baylor Scott & White Health: "The One Best (Medical) Way To Stay Healthy, Lower Costs & Live Longer!"

May 11: 55+ Senior Living Options

June 8: Aging in Place and Staying Put

July 13: Social Security & Medicare Planning

August 10: Downsizing, Rightsizing & Simplifying

September 14: WellMed Doctor

October 12: Medicare Changes for 2021

November 9: Discounts Available to Seniors



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1938 Lohmans Crossing Rd.
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