

June 2017



# Wind in the Willows

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## Message from the President

# HAPPY SUMMER

As I am typing this, it looks like our "Endless April" weather is over! Time to think SUMMER!

When I think of summer, I look forward to WRCA's upcoming Summer events. National Night Out will be held on Tuesday, August 1st. This is one of my favorite neighborhood events. John Miller does a fantastic job for Willow Ridge every year, this is one of my favorite events.

WRCA and the Town of Amherst Youth Board will present the movie "Moana" at our annual movie night on August 5th. Join us at Bedford Park to enjoy a night of family fun.

A big shout out to Joe Battaglia for his work on putting together another successful garage sale week-end.

Have a safe and fun Summer!

- *H. Erich Krueger*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**August 1st**  
National Night Out

**August 4th**  
Movie Night

**Oct 21st**  
Kids Halloween Party

**Early December**  
Holiday Tree Lighting

### Amherst Laws on Dogs

A reminder to our Willow Ridge pet owners to keep their dogs safe. A dog that was not on a leash was struck by a car in the Jeanwood/Kaymar area. Please keep your dogs leashed and be courteous to your neighbors by making sure you pick up after your pets.

Any questions about Town of Amherst and dogs can be answered in **Chapter 99 of the town code:**  
<http://ecode360.com/13278146?highlight=leashes.leash#13278146>

Thank you.



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**Visit us on the web at**

[www.wrca.info](http://www.wrca.info)

**Share your stories!**

Do you know of a new neighbor or maybe a long time friend leaving Willow Ridge?

Have you or your child made a significant achievement lately?

**We want to know about letters of intent, National Honor Society honorees, special certifications, Girl Scout Gold Awards, Boy Scout Eagle Scouts, and much more!**

Send your news and photos to 136 Dalewood Drive or email it to [WITW@WRCA.US](mailto:WITW@WRCA.US).

Follow us on Facebook  
Willow Ridge Civic Association



## Neighborhood News

### Congratulations

There is great excitement in the Radens' home, as their daughter, Beth, and her husband, Joe, welcomed their first child on May 2. Joseph John Higgins, Jr. weighed in at a healthy 8 pounds, 3 ounces. Other than the sleepless nights, everything is going well. John and Sandy are enjoying the time they get to spend with this new little guy!

Willow Lane is happy to announce the birth of Rory Peter Schalberg on June 1. Big brother, Andrew IV, is helping his parents,, Andy and Ann, in caring for his new little playmate. The Dalewood Drive grandparents can't wait to watch our newest arrival to the Nichols/Schalberg family.

Sandy Radens



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

### WRCA & Amherst Police Dept. Present National Night Out

A annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live.

**Tuesday August 1st. 6 PM to 9 PM**

**at Willow Ridge Elementary,**

There will be Police and Fire Dept Demonstrations, Bounce House, Pony Rides, Bicycle Decoration Contest, Prizes, Music by DJ Erich, Self defense demos, and so much more!!

**MARK YOUR CALENDERS!!!**

**Did you know** that Andrew Johnson, the 17th president of the United States, was a tailor before he was president? Or that one of George Washington's favorite foods was ice cream? At 6 feet, 4 inches, Abraham Lincoln was the tallest U.S. president. In 1933, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt took a flight over the area between Washington, D.C., and Baltimore, Maryland, with famed aviator Amelia Earhart. While, James Garfield, the 20th president, was the first left-handed president.

# WRCA Minutes

## WRCA Minutes May 9th, 2017

The May WRCA meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm by President Erich Krueger.

In attendance were President Erich Krueger, Board Members Andy Annesi, John Radens, Cassie Schwab and Marijean Nichols.

**Secretary's Report:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the April minutes as submitted by Secretary Jane Sieman. Jane was excused from tonight's meeting and had submitted the minutes beforehand to the President for distribution. Marijean Nichols agreed to take the minutes for the May meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's Report for this month will be e-mailed to be considered at the June meeting.

**Cell Tower Update:** The Amherst Town Board has approved a 140 day moratorium on new cell towers. They will hire a consultant to study the need for more bandwidth in the town. There is a fee per application for the town to hire the consultant. An advisory committee will be set up to review the cell tower issue and we will try to have a Willow Ridge member on this committee to represent our neighborhood concerns.

## Discussion (Old and New Business):

WRCA has a window to appeal and re-apply with a description in order to get our 501c4 tax status back. We have the necessary paperwork done and have two months to submit. There is an application fee so we need to determine the value in keeping the tax status.

Tom Amodeo is looking at new options to modify the website to have an up-to-date social media presence on Facebook and Twitter. Tom would like to step down as Vice President but has offered to continue as webmaster/email person. Andy Annesi was nominated to the Vice President position. Cassie Schwab was nominated to take Andy's position as board member.

Two Willow Ridge high school seniors will be awarded the WRCA scholarships this year. Erich will present the winners with their scholarships on June 19th.

The annual neighborhood garage sale will be held on the week-end of June 9th-11th. Joe Battaglia will take care of the advertising and signs for this event.

We will firm up the plans for National Night Out and our neighborhood movie night to be held at the beginning of August at the June meeting. Erich will check with John Miller on the activities planned for

National Night Out and both events will be advertised in the WITW. A suggestion was made about holding a neighborhood block party in conjunction with the annual movie night as a possible addition to our annual summer events in the future.

The possibility of new events such as a Willow Ridge date for families at Rollie Pollie has received positive feedback from the neighborhood. The enjoyment of our children in the bounce house at the Easter in April leads us to plan for other opportunities for family fun. A thank you to Amherst Community Church for providing all the activities and also to our wonderful Willow Ridge baker, Alissa Shields and her students for providing the delicious treats. Also, a special thank you to the Easter Bunny for stopping in to take pictures with the children.

Our new artistic editor of WITW is doing a good job in publishing newsletter. Sadly, our existing content editor (myself) does not possess the knowledge of current technology to get the content for production forwarded in an orderly manner. If there is anyone who has the skills I lack, please feel free to volunteer to take over. My studies in journalism occurred long before computer technology, but I will be happy to still write some articles on my typewriter.

**Cont. on Page 4**

## Community News

# 140-day Moratorium Means NO new cell towers in Amherst

Cont, from page 3

### WRCA Minutes May 9th, 2017

As the board gets ready for our summer recess after the June meeting, we are reminded that fall will come soon enough. Summer is a good time to be outside recruiting new members and more volunteers for positions on the WRCA board.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

**The next meeting will be held on September 12, 2017 at the Ellicott Creek Fire Hall at 7:30pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Marijean Nichols

The Greeks were the first to use solar architecture, over 2,000 years ago. They learned to build their houses to take maximum advantage of the solar energy. The sun's rays entered their homes during the winter, but weren't able to enter during the summer.

No new cell towers or other wireless telecommunication facilities will be installed in Amherst for at least the next 140 days.

The Town Board on Monday night approved the temporary moratorium as town officials there grapple with how to regulate the rapidly changing wireless industry.

A newly formed committee composed of various stakeholders has been tasked with studying appropriate standards and restrictions for placement of cell towers in the public right-of-way. The committee will report its findings and recommendations to the Town Board.

The moratorium halts all pending applications, including eight by Mobilitie and Sprint and a dozen by Verizon Wireless in the Willow Ridge neighborhood.

**By Joseph Popiolkowski Published Tue, Jun 6, 2017 The Buffalo News**

(Note: Joseph Popiolkowski from The Buffalo News gave us permission to republish his news article in our Newsletter. I thanked Joseph for his following of this story. HEK)

The complete article can read here: <http://buffalonews.com/2017/06/06/140-day-moratorium-means-no-new-cell-towers-amherst/>

I personally want to send out a huge **Thank You to Alissa Shields** for her working with us on this matter! Also sending a **Thank you for their support WR residents James & Jane Steel and William & Patricia Lisk.**

H. Erich Krueger

## Summer Safety Tips for Drivers H. Erich Krueger

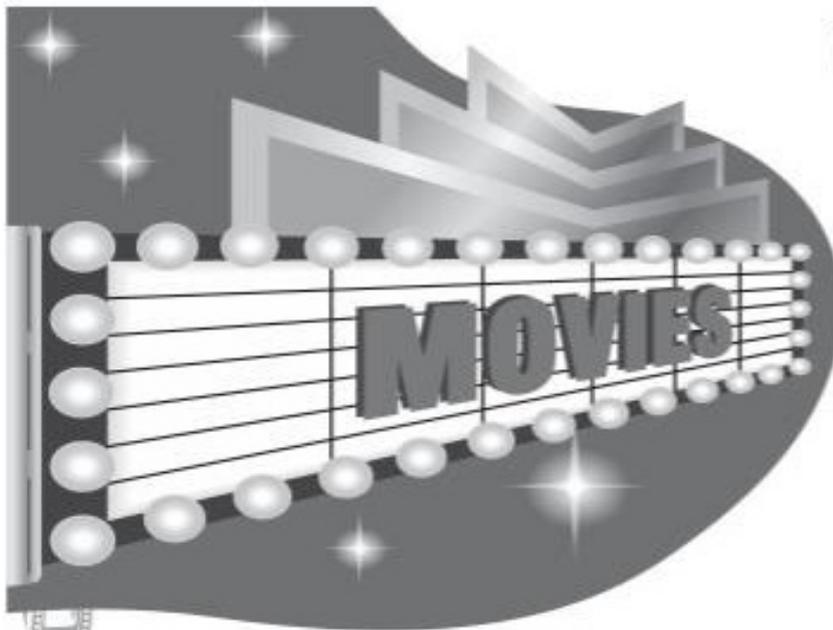
The last week of school is an exciting time for children and they may become preoccupied and forget the rules of the road. Use extra caution when driving through school zones.

During those last few days of school, be aware that kids may be arriving or leaving school at different times throughout the day. Remember that playground speed limits remain in effect year round. Observe carefully when driving around playgrounds and parks. Small children are less predictable and harder to see than adults. Watch for clues, a hockey net or ball in the road or on the sidewalk can mean kids are playing nearby. Pay attention and always anticipate the unexpected.

Always watch for small children as you're backing up. Walk around your vehicle to make sure no kids or pets are behind it.

**Most of all DON'T TEXT & TALK on your Cell Phone while driving!**  
(Source [http://www.kootenaifire.com/images/uploads/PE\\_KCFR\\_SchoolsOutTips.pdf](http://www.kootenaifire.com/images/uploads/PE_KCFR_SchoolsOutTips.pdf))

# Community News



## Town of Amherst Youth and Recreation Department 2017 Summer Movie Series

Clearfield Community Center  
(Unless otherwise noted)

All movies shown Friday nights on the lawn.

Rain Site: Inside Community Center

- 7/7 ..... **Rogue One**
- 7/14 ..... **Lego Batman Movie**
- 7/21 ..... **Sing**
- 7/28 ..... **Power Rangers**
- 8/4 ..... **Moana** @ Willowridge Park
- 8/11 ..... **Pete's Dragon**
- 8/18 ..... **Fantastic Beasts and  
Where to Find Them**
- 8/25 ..... **Storks**



716-631-7132

[www.amherstyouthandrec.org](http://www.amherstyouthandrec.org)

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**TOWN OF AMHERST YOUTH BOARD  
PRESENTS**



**MOVIE NIGHT ~ Aug 4th @ Dusk**

**Location: Willowridge Park (Bedford Park)**

**Presented by Town of Amherst Youth Board.**

# Peppertree Drive Neighbor Helping Children Overseas

Thousands of miles away from the comforts of home, Peppertree Drive resident Janice Pichette, RN, is making a difference in the lives of children with spinal deformities.

As president and founder of the non-profit organization World Spine Outreach, she assembles a team of medical professionals each year to provide advanced orthopedic spinal and neurological medicine to underserved areas around the globe.

In February, she traveled to Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic on a medical mission trip. In collaboration with the Butterfly Foundation, they performed spinal corrective procedures on 22 individuals, changing their lives forever.



***"This is how I leave my stamp on the world,"*** said Janice, who works full-time as a clinical nurse in Kenmore Mercy Hospital's Operating Room. ***"I am helping children who would dies otherwise."*** The goal of World Spine Outreach is to provide care to individuals in disadvantaged communities who have little or no access to this level of technology or trained medical personnel. Correction of spinal deformity provides improved quality of life, increased productivity and possibly social acceptability. To learn more about World Spine Outreach or how you can help, call 870-7535 or visit [worldspineoutreach.com](http://worldspineoutreach.com).

**I have buyers for Willow Ridge, call me to find out what your home is worth!**

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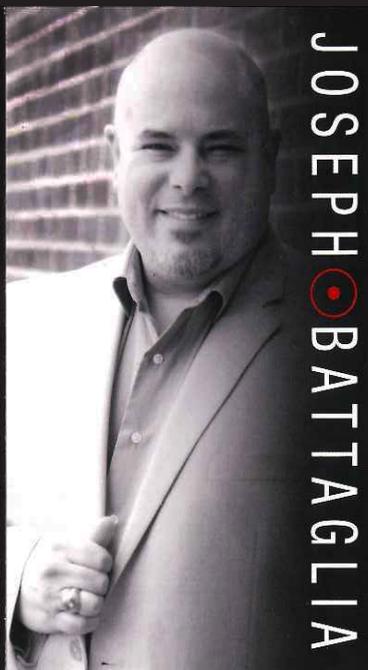
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Each Office Independently Owned and Operated



# AMERICAN SYMBOLS

Find the symbols of America in the word search below.  
They can be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal.

L	A	O	F	A	D	K	S	S	B	J
A	P	A	E	L	V	A	T	D	A	A
I	L	E	A	F	A	H	A	J	M	S
A	I	B	G	G	E	G	R	B	E	F
J	B	N	L	H	A	I	S	E	R	U
E	E	R	E	S	N	O	U	R	I	N
P	R	E	S	I	D	E	N	T	C	E
O	T	I	A	O	T	Y	I	I	A	S
U	Y	S	T	R	I	P	E	S	A	T
T	S	T	A	T	E	S	N	D	Z	H

**America:** Was founded July 4th, 1776.

**States:** There are 50 states in the union.

**Flag:** The flag of the United States has evolved since it was first created.

**President:** The leader of the USA.

**Liberty:** Is represented by the Statue of Liberty and the Liberty Bell.

**Eagle:** The national bird of the United States of America is the Bald Eagle.

**Stars:** There are 50 white stars on the American flag, representing the 50 states.

**Stripes:** There are 13 red and white stripes on the American flag, representing the original 13 colonies.



## Fun Facts

A Kilowatt (kW) is a unit for measuring electrical power. 1,000 watts = 1 kilowatt.

The sun is so powerful that in just one hour it makes enough energy to meet the world's energy demands for a whole year.

Electricity travels at the speed of light -- more than 186,000 miles per second!

A spark of static electricity can measure up to 3,000 volts.

Lightning bolts can travel at around 130,000 miles per hour and reach nearly 54,000 °F in temperature.



# RealtyUSA and 1st Priority Annual Awards

# 2017

## Connie Holovics Platinum Award Winner!



Connie with President Helen Hanna Casey and  
Chairman NYS Merle Whitehead



A Howard Hanna Company

6000 Sheridan Dr., Williamsville, NY 14221

## BEST OF THE BEST PLATINUM AWARD WINNER TOP 20 INDIVIDUAL AGENT IN WNY

Special thanks to my WR clients who helped make 2016 a big success. You gave me 7 sales in the neighborhood, as well as referrals outside of WR, which made me a Top 20 RealtyUSA agent in Buffalo. I truly appreciate when you call!!



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www.ConnieHolovics.com

**The Fourth of July**—also known as Independence Day or July 4th—has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution. On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th

has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.



***Have a Safe Fun Filled Holiday***