

Wind-in-the-Willows

Willow Ridge Civic Association

Willow Ridge Civic Association

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WRCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Tuesday, February 10, 7:30 p.m.
Ellicott Creek Fire Hall
All Members Welcome

- WRCA Minutes: Pg. 2
- Block Rep Meeting Thanks: Pg.3
- Snowflake Dinner Dance: Pg. 4
- Classified & Neighborhood News: Pg. 5
- Garden Club: Pg. 6

www.wrca.info

WRCA Recharges Block Rep Program



Sometimes, the old ways are best.

The Willow Ridge Civic Association hopes that holds true, as we look to revamp and energize the block rep program. The organization hopes the block reps will help improve a sagging membership, which is down 100 members from the previous year.

Connie Holovics, a WRCA board member and block rep, hosted a breakfast at her Denrose Drive home on January 17, distributing new neighbor welcome kits and explaining strategies for encouraging people to renew their memberships. Fifteen block reps came to learn about the new plans.

“We’re getting back in the flow,” she said. “Everyone who was here was really gung-ho and cares about the neighborhood. We need to find out what’s happening with neighbors, and we need to welcome new residents so they know about all the services and events we provide.”

The block reps had long been key to boosting membership drives, welcoming new residents to the neighborhood, and passing along news of interest to WRCA members. Volunteers on each street would collect membership dues, and familiarize new neighbors with what our community is all about.

In the mid-2000s, the board started relying less on block reps to carry out membership drives, instead using postcards and notes in the *Wind-in-the-Willows*. As a result, the block reps slowly became less active in the WRCA. Connie Holovics aims to change all that.

Block reps will again be going door-to-door, visiting with both new neighbors, and talking with members who did not renew from the previous year.

“I think people just forgot,” she said. “With the block reps going door-to-door, it reminded them to renew. And it’s really hard to say ‘no’ when a neighbor comes knocking.”

Marge LaHood, a block rep on Parkhaven Drive for 40 years, said the program is more important than ever to build neighborhoods. She thinks changes in technology has caused a lack of communication amongst neighbors. “Email and everything is great, but it really stifles sociability; people don’t talk. You’ve got to talk to your neighbors.”

The WRCA is still looking for block reps who want to help out in this very important effort. If you would like to volunteer just a few minutes of your time each month, all while meeting your neighbors, contact Connie Holovics at 691-9569.



WRCA MINUTES

January 14th, 2015

The meeting was opened at 7 p.m. by President Jim Cwierley. In attendance were Vice President Mark Hammer, Treasurer Tom Amodeo and (shortly thereafter) Secretary Marijean Nichols. Board of Directors Members Andy Annesi, John Ball, Connie Holovics, Erich Krueger, Derrick Ong and Rick VonLangen also attended. Membership/Circulation Chairperson Lynn Getzin attended. Community attendees were Roseanne & Art Grasha, John Radens and Dave DeMeester.

Secretary Minutes: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the December 2014 meeting. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report: Income for the month of December 2014 was \$1,162 from the yearly membership sign-up and dues that were received during the month. The expenses totaled \$816 for this month. The balance was \$5,448. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion approved.

Membership Report: Lynn Getzin reported there are approximately 481 memberships paid to date. This number is down from last year at this time. Everyone should be using the same form when signing up and paying their dues for this year. Connie Holovics has put together a new package to handout at the event she is hosting for the block representatives in January. The block reps are key to making families aware of the many amenities provided by the WRCA. The membership drive will again be promoted in the February WITW. The membership information needs to be ready by 2/15/15. Once again, we will highlight the many community events sponsored by the association in the next newsletter.

Old Business: We were updated on the new Willow Ridge website. Rick VonLangen is talking to businesses about advertising in the directory for 2015. The business agenda was completed at 7:30 pm followed by a short break before the evening's Public Speaker.

Sweet Home School Superintendent Anthony Day opened the presentation at 7:40 pm by introducing the new principal at Willow Ridge and the School Safety Officer. Mr. Day then updated us on the upcoming capital projects that will be done this year including a new track and tennis courts and an artificial turf for the stadium. Also, the parking lots at the high school will be redone and new air-conditioning will be put in the district offices.

Willow Ridge Elementary School needs a new roof. The parking lot there will also be redesigned with concrete extending to the bike racks. Even tougher security standards will be implemented throughout the district and will be in place by next year.

Common Core was also discussed. The district is providing coaching for teachers in implementing this program. Registration is down in the district, Willow Ridge enrolled far fewer new students in Kindergarten this year. The district is seeking volunteers from the community to be involved with many issues including the advisability of having student uniforms. After answering questions, the guests were thanked for addressing our concerns.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

The next meeting of the WRCA will be held on Tuesday, February 10th, 2015 at 7:30 pm at the Fire Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Marijean Nichols
Secretary



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Score a Touchdown with Healthy Super Bowl Party Choices!

Ready for some football?

Is it Low-Cal?



For many of us, the fun of Super Bowl Sunday comes with watching the commercials and overindulging on snacks.

However, there are some simple changes football fans can make to cut calories and fat and still enjoy tasty game day snacks.

Pizza

Go for a thin, whole wheat crust veggie pizza. Otherwise, dab the slices with a paper towel and steer clear of the crust.

Chips

Forgo regular fried potato chips for baked chips. The latter contain 65% less fat than regular chips, with 0.5g of saturated fat and zero cholesterol per serving.

Nachos

Pick from the bottom of the pile to limit cheese. Swap out sour cream for salsa. - Dawn Cwierley

NOTE OF THANKS



Special thanks to the 15 Block Reps that took the time

to attend our get together last month. It was great to meet and discuss our role in the neighborhood, plus preview the Welcome Kits. Thanks for all of your feedback and ideas. Your dedication to our Willow Ridge community is commendable!

I also appreciated JIM CWIERLEY, Willow Ridge Board President, stopping in to meet everyone and participate in the discussion. Special thanks to SANDY RADENS for coming early to help set up and staying late to clean up. I really appreciated your help immensely!

CONNIE HOLOVICS, Block Rep Coordinator

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Scot & Donna Mosteller

P.S. They were one of the Holiday Lighting winners their 1st year in WR.

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CLASSICS V

Menu choices

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*Twin chicken breast sautéed and baked with chopped bacon, onion, mushrooms,
finished with a red wine demi glaze.*

STUFFED SHRIMP

*Large prawns stuffed w/ lump crab and topped with a mornay sauce
drizzled with light garlic sauce.*

FOR TICKET INFO CALL

CAROL ZAFFRAM 716-913-4980

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Classified

Classified is a service provided for the use of Willow Ridge Civic Association members free of charge. Please print or type your ad on a *full-sized sheet of paper*. Sign your ad (not the envelope), include your address/ phone #. *Classified* is not to be used for business purposes. Deliver to 221 N. Brier and place in porch box, or email to wiweditor@gmail.com.



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Thank you to Dawn Cwierly for her *Healthy Super Bowl Choices* article for this this issue.

Happy Valentine's Day

In Sympathy

Friends and neighbors wish to express their heartfelt sympathy to Elaine Weber on the passing of her husband, Dick on November 27. Their children, Richard, Karen, Cindy and Susan and their families are in our thoughts and prayers, too. Dick will be missed in our Willow Green neighborhood.

Welcome

Residents of Willow Lane would like to announce the arrival of two new families who are familiar with what Willow Ridge has to offer. Karen Werwinski, Ronald Connor, Christopher, 14 and Matthew 18 have moved into number 35. Another family, Andy and Ann Schalbey and newborn son Andy IV, have moved into number 96. Welcome to both families! We are glad they chose this great community. We are Willow Ridge Proud!

Last month, we welcomed Jim and Sheila Hickey to 19 Kaymar Drive. The address was in error. We would now like to correct that error and give them an even warmer welcome **31** Kaymar Drive which is the house correct number. Sorry for the mistake.



DEFENSIVE DRIVER COURSE

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Instructor: Mr. Charles F. Husvar, Jr.
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9:00am –3:45pm

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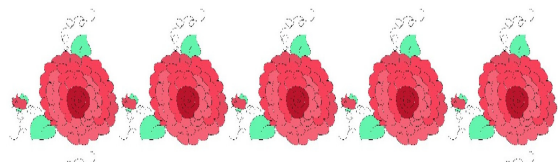
To Register: Call or email Pastor Eric Napoli
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Registration will be complete when fee is received.

SPACES ARE
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Lunch will be provided
(1/2 hour break)

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Willow Ridge Garden Club

The Willow Ridge Garden Club will hold its Installation Luncheon Wednesday, February 4th at Sean Patrick's 3480 Millersport Highway, Getzville. Director -elect, Marcia Becker will conduct the installation.

March is a transition meeting, new officers will present the agenda for 2015 with preliminary plans for guest speakers, workshops and field excursions. New Chair persons will be selected and club records are transferred to all committees who will start working on our plans for a productive and exciting new year.



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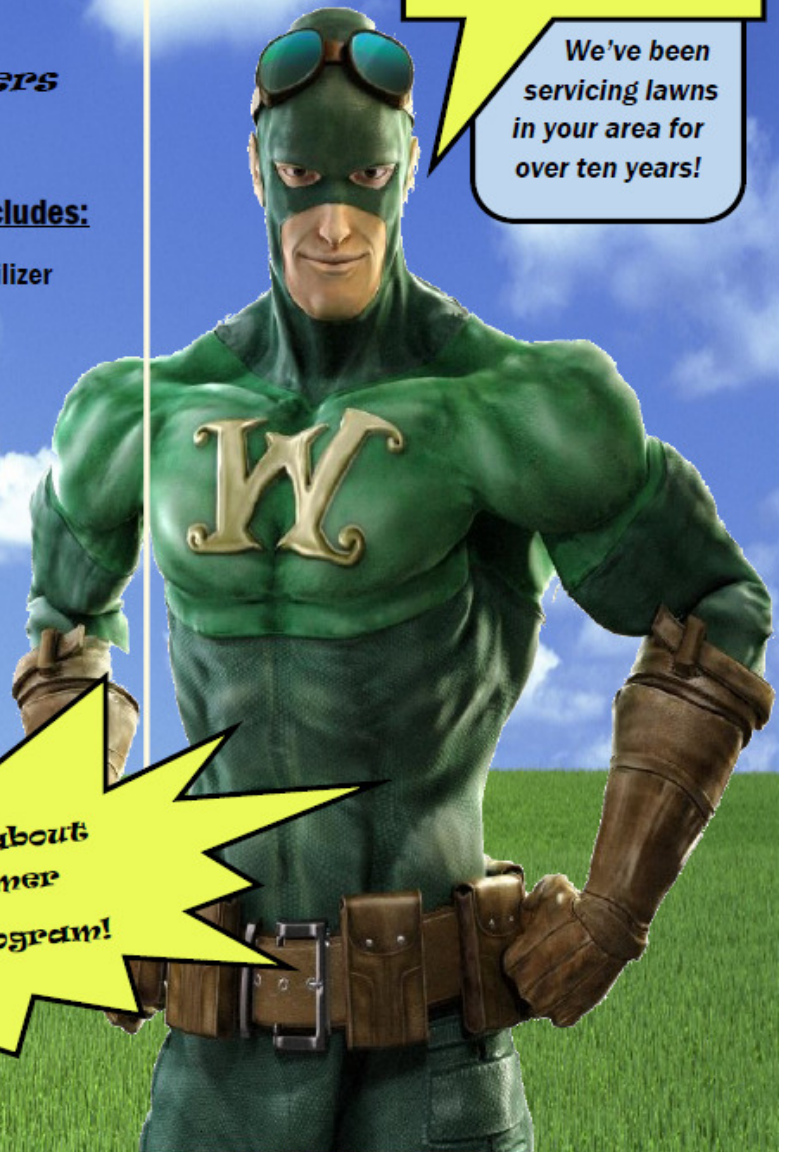
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**February
2015**



THANK YOU

Many thanks to all who renewed their memberships or joined WRCA for the first time! We appreciate you being a member and hope to see you at monthly meetings and events. Remember, it is never too late to volunteer to assist with WRCA. There is always room for more!

**Know a neighbor that hasn't joined yet?
Please urge them to call any board member for information.**

