

Wind-in-the-Willows

Willow Ridge Civic Association

Willow Ridge Civic Association

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Board of Directors

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John Ball 523-1652

Connie Holovics 553-7433

Erich Krueger 691-9952

Derrick Ong 816-8476

Rick VonLangen 691-6420

Wind-In-the-Willows

Editor

Debby VonLangen 691-6420

wiweditor@gmail.com

Advertising WITW/Directory

Rick VonLangen 691-6420

Membership/Circulation

Lynn Getzin 691-0573

wrcalg@gmail.com

Directory

Jim Cwierley 525-1893

Area Head Reporters

Lee Baker 691-5972

Patti Burns 691-6942

Debbie Feger 691-9585

Evelyn Gagnon 564-6320

Laura Hammer 691-4042

Connie Holovics 691-9569

Jeanne Humbert 691-5016

Karen Kazial 691-8275

Marj LaHood 691-4648

Doreen Notaro 691-3507

Jane Sieman 564-0913

Kathy Smead 691-6787

Jackie Sommer 691-5605

Charlene Vitale 691-3356

Neighborhood Scout's Quick Actions Help Accident Victim

It started out as an ordinary day for Eric Hawkins, with a walk to Mill Street Middle School. The extraordinary actions he took next, however, may have saved a life.

Hawkins, a Boy Scout with the Willow Ridge-based Troop 173, was just outside the school when he saw a horrific accident. A girl had just been struck by a vehicle in the road, right in front of him.

The eighth-grader leaped into action, running inside the school to tell school workers about the accident. Hawkins then went back to the girl, and began providing first aid for her while they waited for an ambulance to get there. While the EMTs began treating her, Hawkins filled them in on what happened as well as other information.

"First responders said if he hadn't acted, they weren't sure if she would have survived," said Gerry Poydock, an assistant Scoutmaster with the troop. "Eric is an impressive young man."

Boy Scouts are always taught to be prepared. It is their motto, after all.

But being prepared is only half the battle. The real test of your mettle comes in how you act. The Boy Scouts, and the Willow Ridge community, can be proud that one of their own passed that test with flying colors.

Watch for neighborhood
information from:



WRCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Tuesday, March 10, 7:30 p.m.
Ellicott Creek Fire Hall
All Members Welcome
Articles for the April WITW are due
March 13

- WRCA Minutes: Pg. 2
- Winter Safety: Pg. 3
- Snowflake Dinner Dance: Pg. 4
- Classified & Neighborhood News: Pg. 5
- Garden Club: Pg. 6
- Easter Party: Pg. 8

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WRCA MINUTES

February 10, 2015

The meeting was opened at 7:30 p.m. by President Jim Cwierley. In attendance on this cold night were Treasurer Tom Amodeo and Secretary Marijean Nichols. Board Members Erich Krueger, Connie Holovics and Rick VonLangen also attended. In addition, community members John Radens, Peter Nichols and two representatives from Amherst Baptist Church were in attendance.

Secretary Minutes: A motion was made by Rick VonLangen and seconded by Erich Krueger to approve the minutes from the January meeting as published in this month's *Wind-in-the-Willows*. Motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report: Income for the month of January was \$873 from yearly membership sign-up dues. The expenses for the month totaled \$675 for newsletter printing. The balance was \$5642. A motion was made by Marijean Nichols and seconded by Erich Krueger to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion approved.

Membership Report: President Jim Cwierley reported on this year's membership drive as Chairperson Lynn Getzin was not able to attend tonight's meeting. As of the present time, membership is down 150 memberships from this time last year. It was suggested that the block representatives could help by contacting their neighbors and helping them fill out the paperwork for membership that Lynn needs. The block representatives could also assist members in updating their household information.

Connie Holovics contacted all the listed block representatives and invited them to her house for a reception. Fifteen block representatives attended. Connie noted that some of the people she contacted that were listed as block representatives are not even members anymore. Connie is working very hard to get the block reps more involved again and letting them know that their work is very much appreciated.

Old Business: The next edition of *Wind-in-the-Willows* will once again highlight the benefits of membership in the Willow Ridge Civic Association and showcase the many activities that benefit the residents of Willow Ridge.

The Wine Tasting Event has been cancelled. Ticket sales for the annual Snowflake Dinner Dance are going well. The WRCA directory is on the way to completion.

Coupons for the winners of the annual Christmas Lighting Contest will be given out to the ten winners shortly. The new app for the WRCA will be presented at next month's meeting.

Two members of the Amherst Baptist Community Church spoke at the meeting. They are extending an invitation to work with the WRCA on promoting and helping out with the neighborhood events. The land on which the church is located was donated by a farmer to set up a church within the community. They are a community church and want to be a part of the community where they are located. They are offering a defensive driving course in February to reduce car insurance costs. The cost is \$30 and anyone interested can register by calling the church.

New Business: There is a new Girl Scout group in the neighborhood. Of the seven girls, only three are from Willow Ridge. We need to re-examine the WRCA's sponsorship of scouting groups to make sure they are groups where the members are Willow Ridge residents and to assess what civic duties the scouts are performing in the Willow Ridge community.

No one on the current board has the key for the community bulletin board located at the convenience store on the corner of Willow Ridge and Niagara Falls Blvd. We will try to locate the key from the former holder so they we can utilize the board for posting.

There was a request from Dawn Cwierley that we start a "good citizen" acknowledgement for neighbors who are helping out in the neighborhood by extending a helping hand to their fellow neighbors. The board was in agreement that this is a good idea.

A complaint was filed with the town regarding the lack of snow shoveling on the corner of Sweetwood and Willow Ridge.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m. The next meeting of the Willow Ridge Civic Association will be held on Tuesday, March 10th, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at the Fire Hall.

Respectfully submitted, Marijean Nichols, Secretary

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Look Out For Your Neighbors This Winter

Snowy weather is hard work for homeowners. You get the driveway clear and head to work, only to start all over again when you return. While it's extra work, it's vital to also clear sidewalks and dig out fire hydrants.

Many residents rely on clear sidewalks for trips to the store, to the bus, and to school. Snow- and ice-covered sidewalks force people into the street where oncoming traffic may not see them around large snowbanks. Furthermore, it makes for unsafe walking and could lead to serious injuries if someone were to slip and fall.

Clearing sidewalks is more than a nice gesture, it's the law. Section 83-9-5 of building construction administration code in the Town of Amherst notes that it is the responsibility of the homeowner to keep sidewalks free and clean of snow, ice, dirt or any other obstruction.

Fire hydrants should also be cleared by property owners or nearby residents so they are easily located by firefighters. "Your actions might save a neighbor's house and family, or even your own," said Dave DeMeester, past chief of the Ellicott Creek Fire Department.

He also noted that, "There are 350 fire hydrants in our district. When a hydrant is buried in snow, we lose valuable time trying to locate it during a fire call."

A few tips he offered when digging out fire hydrants include:

- * Know the location of all fire hydrants in your neighborhood.
- * Make sure they are shoveled clear after each snowfall.
- * Clear away any snow and ice in the area surrounding these fire hydrants.
- * Clear the snow three feet all around the hydrant so firefighters have enough room to connect a hose.

Look out for your neighbors; an extra few minutes of work could save someone's life.

Dawn Cwierley



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MARCH 7th 7pm– Midnight

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CLASSICS V

Menu choices

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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

inknmore06@gmail.com

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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Welcome

Neighbors on Parkhaven Drive would like to welcome the Martinez family to our community. Julio, Kathryn and their four children reside at 198 Parkhaven Drive.

Congratulations

Don and Linda Wagner of Willow Ridge Dr. are overjoyed to welcome their new grandson, Oliver Zachary Bennett, born on December 18, 2014 in Emeryville, CA. His parents, Jennifer and John, are happily being trained by their son; and his grandparents think he is exceptional, of course!

To Submit Articles for the *Wind-in-the-Willows,*

Email:

wiweditor@gmail.com and be sure to put *witw* in the subject box;

or

place signed articles in porch box at 221 North Brier Road. The deadlines for each month are located in the left margin on the front page of the newsletter.



Do you have concerns or questions about our community?
Do you have a great idea? How can we make Willow Ridge even better?
Meet with us...
WRCA Membership Meeting
Tuesday, March 10th, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.
Ellicott Creek Fire Hall
Community Open Forum

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Attended Hours

Monday 9:30-3:00pm
Tuesday 9:30-3:00pm
Friday 9:30-3:00pm
Saturday 9:30-3:00pm

Willow Ridge Garden Club

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.



Joseph Battaglia

Licensed Associate Real Estate Broker

Cell: 716.863.4586

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**March
2015**

WRCA Easter Party
Saturday, April 4
at Willow Ridge
Elementary School
10:30 a.m.

Kids, get ready for crafts, games,
candy and fun! You will be so egg-
cited to see none other than the

Easter Bunny!

