

# Wind-in-the-Willows

## Willow Ridge Civic Association

### Willow Ridge Civic Association

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#### WRCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, April 14, 7:30 p.m.

Ellicott Creek Fire Hall

All Members Welcome

Articles for the May WITW are due

April 10

- WRCA Minutes: Pg. 2 & 3
- Boy Scouts/Classified: Pg. 4
- Neighborhood News/
- Grad Announcement: Pg. 5
- Garden Club: Pg. 6
- Easter Party: Pg. 8

www.wrca.info

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The last few weeks in Willow Ridge have been exhilarating. The mountains of snow in our yards have been reduced to mere foothills, and the lawns have begun to emerge. More and more foot traffic can be seen on our sidewalks, and the smell of food cooking on grills again fills the air. We've finally beaten back the long, miserable winter, and spring has finally sprung! This is a time where seeds planted long ago jump back to life, and new growth flourishes in the community. It is truly one of the most exciting times of year.

With that in mind, the Willow Ridge Civic Association is ready for new a new season too. We're busy readying a host of events and new programs to ring in the warm weather months. First, we're excited to announce the Willow Ridge Civic Association app for smart phones, which will be available later this month. I know; *everyone* seems to have an app these days. What makes ours special?

This app will alert you to all the exciting events in Willow Ridge, so you'll be in the know even quicker. Our online directory will keep you from fumbling around in a browser to find your neighbor's phone number, and we'll also save you some money too. A special 'Deals' section will highlight specials from local shops and restaurants, exclusively for Civic Association members.

The WRCA app will be available in the Google Play and iTunes store, with more information coming soon. I would sincerely like to thank board member Derrick Ong, who coordinated a group of computer programming interns from the University at Buffalo to produce these apps for us.

In May, we'll also be debuting a new look for the *Wind-in-the-Willows*. It will contain all the neighborhood information you've come to expect, wrapped up in a fresh new look. We're always looking to add more information and features to the letter, so please reach us at [wiweditor@gmail.com](mailto:wiweditor@gmail.com) or [wrca.president@wrca.us](mailto:wrca.president@wrca.us) with any ideas you have.

Rounding out this communications trifecta will be the delivery of the 2015 WRCA Directory. The Willow Ridge Boy Scouts will be dropping them off at your door soon, so please stay on the lookout for them.

The WRCA has always been known for the events we put on for residents, and this year is no exception. On April 4, we'll have the annual Easter Egg Hunt and Children's Party, from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Willow Ridge Elementary School.

Start cleaning out your garages and basements now: the Willow Ridge community garage sale is coming soon. This year, the event will be held the weekend of June 13 and 14. Check the newsletter, Facebook feed, and app for more information as it becomes available.

The WRCA is always looking to grow with you. If there's an event or idea you'd like to share with us, please call me at 525-1893.

Jim Cwierley

# WRCA MINUTES

March 10, 2015

The meeting was opened at 7:30 p.m. by Vice President Mark Hammer. In attendance were Treasurer Tom Amodeo, Secretary Marijean Nichols and Board Members Derrick Ong, Rick VonLangen, Connie Holovics and Erich Krueger. Community members John Radens and Peter Nichols attended. Also present were Interns Aniket Mayakal, Libing Wu, Elie Onokoko, Jody Wong and HEX (my apology, I could not read spelling of last name). Normal business was waived at this point so that the interns from UB, working under the leadership of Derrick Ong to set up the new Willow Ridge app, could present a preview. The app should be available this spring. President Jim Cwierley arrived as the presentation was starting.

The public page of the app will be available to everyone. People will need to log in for information on events. For WRCA members, the E-Directory will be available. Residents who provide services (i.e. plumbing, computer assistance, tutoring, etc.) will be listed. This will be a help to residents who have specific hiring needs and need a reference directory to go to for help. Discount coupons for various local vendors will be available to members as part of the app. The app will be able to tell if the coupon has been used. This will quantify the cost of advertising by being able to show how many coupons were used. There are no individual PDF's; a standard image will keep everything uniform.

The app is 80% done and a roll out plan should be available by the April Board meeting. This will give us three weeks to find and correct any mistakes. Derrick will make an initial contact through UB for help with a support group to help as the app goes live and we move forward. A thank-you and round of applause was given to Derrick and his interns for all the work they have done to make this new technology available to the residents who are members of our community civic association. We are grateful to Derrick and his team and look forward to making this exciting new benefit available to our membership.

The presentation ended at 8:47 p.m. at which time President Jim Cwierley returned to the normal business meeting agenda.

Secretary Minutes: A motion was made by Mark Hammer and seconded by Tom Amodeo to approve the minutes of the February meeting as published in this month's *Wind-in-the-Willows*. Motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report: Income for the month of February was \$153 from yearly membership sign-up dues. The expenses for the month totaled \$601 for newsletter expenses and payment to the membership chair. The balance was \$5,194. A motion was made by Marijean Nichols and seconded by Connie Holovics to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion was approved.

Membership Report: President Jim Cwierley updated us on the current membership drive as Membership Chairperson Lynn Getzin was again not able to attend tonight's meeting. As of the present time, we are over 500 members for the new year. Connie Holovics has worked extremely hard on the membership drive this year by trying to involve the Block Reps again and letting them know they are appreciated. Connie hosted a reception for the Block Reps in her home in January and has been using the phone tree to promote the importance of membership in our association. Many thanks to Connie for her tireless efforts to make our neighborhood strong through involving people to let the residents know what membership in our civic association is about and the benefits we provide to the residents of the Willow Ridge community.

Old Business: The issue of The WRCA support of scouting in our community was addressed. Troops seeking our financial support should be residents of Willow Ridge and should be providing community service to this community. Discussion was tabled until a future meeting because of the lateness of the meeting. President Jim Cwierley now has the key for the bulletin board so that we can utilize it for postings.

*Continued on page 3*

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New business: Board Member John Ball has resigned. President Cwierley presented John Radens for consideration to fill Mr. Ball's vacated seat. A motion was made by Mark Hammer and seconded by Tom Amodeo to appoint John Radens to fill the open board seat. Motion was approved and Mr. Radens immediately began to fulfill his duties as a member of the WRCA Board.

The tennis courts will be ripped up and replaced this summer. To protect the new courts after the summer season is over the area will now be padlocked. Due to potential damage to the new courts, hockey rinks will no longer be allowed over the new tennis courts during the off-season.

There were seventy-eighty residents at the annual Snowflake Dinner Dance held in March. A good time was had by all in attendance at this popular community event.

A motion was made by Marijean Nichols and seconded by Erich Krueger to adjourn. Motion was approved. Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Marijean Nichols,  
Secretary



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Tuesday 9:30-3:00pm

Friday 9:30-3:00pm

Saturday 9:30-3:00pm

Do you have a graduating senior, college or high school, in the family this year ?




Let your Willow Ridge neighbors celebrate with you.  
See page 5 for details!

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## Spring

## Barbecue



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*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](mailto:wiweditor@gmail.com).

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Any Hummel Collector: Please call Ruth @ 691-4660.

## Neighborhood News



### In Sympathy

Friends and neighbors on Westcliffe Drive wish to extend our sincere sympathy to John and Kay Marciano and family on the death of John's lovely mother, Linda. Both Linda and her late husband, John Sr. were long time cherished residents of the Willow Ridge community and left a legacy of love and family for all those that knew them. Love and prayers are with you John and Kay from all your friends on Westcliffe.

### Congratulations

Congratulations on the marriage of Ian and Stacy McNess. They were married February 15th on the Carnival Sunshine Cruise Ship in Port Canaveral. They had 50 guests in attendance with 30 of their closest family and friends sailing with them on a beautiful Bahamas vacation. It was a beautiful wedding and a memorable vacation.

## Graduation approaches...

### Celebrate your grad with an announcement, Willow Ridge style!

With the coming of spring there is no denying it. Listening to T.V. morning talk shows, the conversation revolves around prom dress fashion. Girls are planning for prom; schools are preparing their final concert of the year. And yes, the specter of graduation is peering around the corner.

Here in this newsletter, as we have done every year, we would like to honor the graduates in Willow Ridge. Moms and dads, let us all celebrate your grad with you via an announcement in the *Wind-in-the-Willows!* Submit your graduate's name, address, and graduating school (college or high school). Include any accomplishments and/or goals he/she might have. To make the announcement extra special, be sure to include a signed "one-liner;" a personal message to your graduate. Graduation information can be sent starting now for publication in the May issue, but to insure the June edition, please submit by May 15. Submissions that do not make it into the May or June issue will appear in the July edition. Printed announcements, on a full size sheet of paper, may be placed in the box on the porch at 221 North Brier, or better yet, email me at [wiweditor@gmail.com](mailto:wiweditor@gmail.com). Please keep in mind that although there are no restrictions on announcement length editing may become necessary.

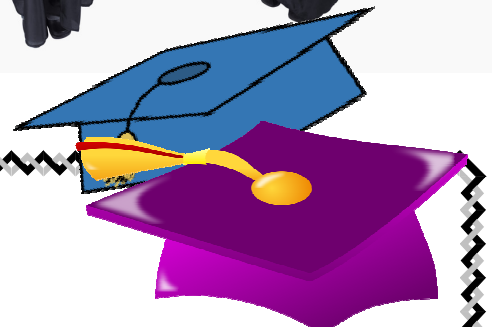


Yes, the long cold winter is coming to an end, and from some, so is school. Celebrate Willow Ridge!

Debby VonLangen, Editor



# Celebrate!



## Willow Ridge Garden Club

The Willow Ridge Garden Club will meet at 7:00pm on April 1st, at the Zion Church. Our club's president Maryann Jumper will give a power point presentation on the Buchart Gardens which are located near Victoria, British Columbia.



On April 9th several members of the club's Garden Therapy group will visit the Weinberg Campus to decorate bird houses with residents.

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

Email: [wiweditor@gmail.com](mailto:wiweditor@gmail.com); *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.



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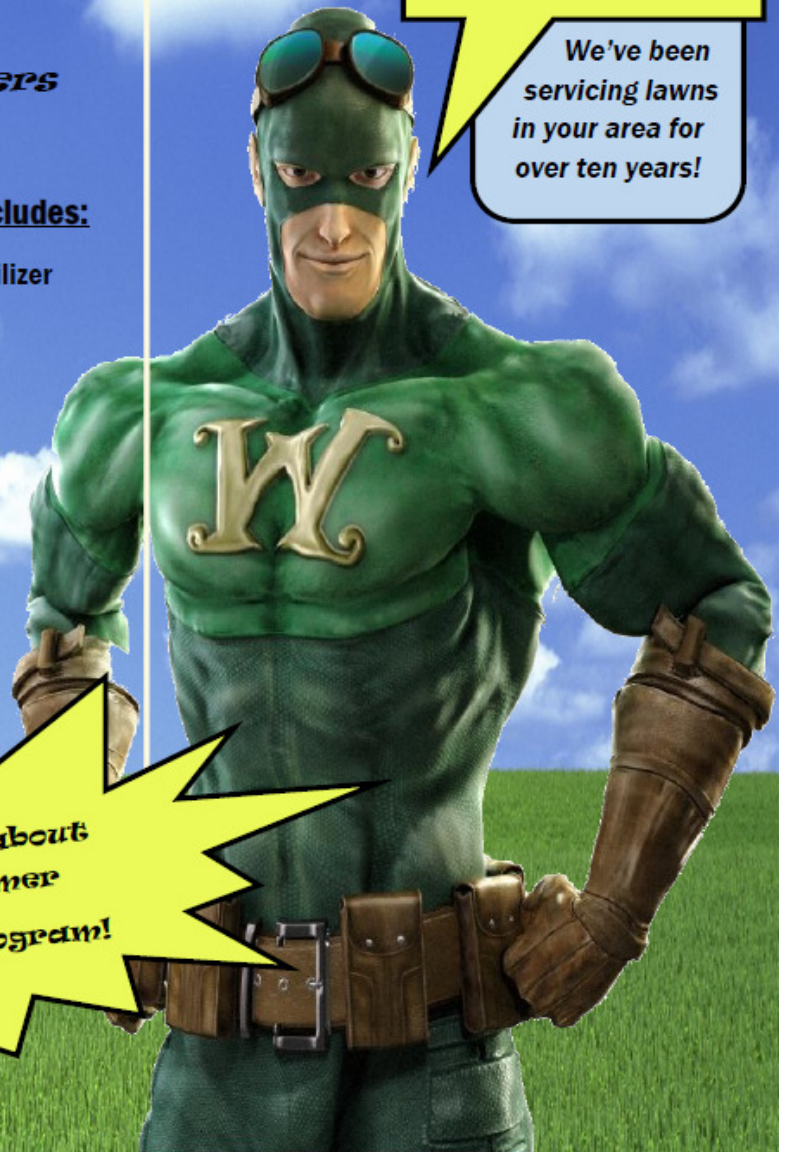
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April  
2015

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Saturday, April 4  
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Elementary School  
10:30 a.m.

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candy and fun! You will be so egg-  
cited to see none other than the

Easter Bunny!

