

WIND-IN-THE-WILLOWS

News for and about Willow Ridge Civic Association Members

June 2015



Neighborhood News

In Sympathy

Jack Baker, a longtime Willow Ridge resident and past president of the Willow Ridge Civic Association, died May 27 in Florida, according to Patty Daddario.

Jack, along with his wife Lee, ran the popular Snowflake Dinner Dance for many years. Until late 2014, he also served as the webmaster for the WRCA, coordinating E-Winds and upkeep of the website.

A more complete and fitting tribute for Jack will be appearing in the July/August edition of the *Wind-in-the-Willows*, and we need your help. Mr. Baker was an important member of the Willow Ridge community and has contributed greatly to its rich history. So that we may more properly recognize all his accomplishments, won't you please share your memories with us? We'll share them online and in our next edition of the newsletter.

We would love to hear your remembrances of Jack. Send any memories, stories, and photos of Mr. Baker to wrca.president@gmail.com, or post them to our Facebook page. You can also call Jim Cwierley at 525-1893, or drop a note in his mailbox at 740 Edgewater Drive.

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Get Ready For Summer In Willow Ridge

The colors exploding from area gardens and tantalizing smells coming from barbecues are clear signals that summer is under way. Summer is our reward for suffering through the trials Mother Nature put us through this past winter. It is typically the time for vacations, lounging about in the yard, and planning outings with the family.

The Willow Ridge Civic Association is also ready for summer, with an exciting lineup of events for young and old alike. We're thrilled to share our plans with you now so you can pencil them in on your calendars.

Out with the old, in with the new. The annual Willow Ridge Garage Sale will be held on June 12, 13 and 14, at dozens of homes throughout the neighborhood. Hundreds of bargain hunters will converge on Willow Ridge, looking for deals on used appliances, toys, clothing and more. If you would like your sale listed in the event, contact Joe Battaglia at 564-0737 as soon as possible.

National Night Out, a community event that brings together police, firemen, and the communities they serve together, will be held August 4 at the Willow Ridge Elementary School. The event typically kicks off with a bicycle parade through the neighborhood, and ends at the school, where there are demonstrations from Amherst Police, the Ellicott Creek Volunteer Fire Department, and other organizations. Neighborhoods only get strong – and safer – when we all get to know each other and build solid relationships. Events like National Night Out let us meet our neighbors and help us learn how to protect ourselves in case of danger.

The Third Annual Willow Ridge Movie Night is scheduled for the first week of August. A family-friendly movie will be shown on a large inflatable screen in Bedford Park. There will also be activities to keep the kids busy before the movie starts around dusk. We're still in the process of selecting a movie for the event. Please contact us if you have suggestions.

This has been a very successful event the past two years. We're hoping you can make it even better. The WRCA needs volunteers to ensure the success of our Movie Night this year. Can you help coordinate games for the kids? Do you enjoy event planning, or even putting promotions in place for the event? We'd love to have you join the team. For more information on the event or to volunteer, please contact Tom Amodeo at webmaster@wrca.us

Summer Party Protocol

Willow Ridge has a wonderful reputation for good neighbors. When it comes time for your party, keep the noise and voices down after 11pm, or consider moving indoors, especially if it is a weekday. Please remember your good neighbors by being one.

Contact Us

President:

Jim Cwierley 525-1893

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Marjean Nichols 691-4375

Treasurer:

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Visit us on the web at
www.wrca.info

Find us on Facebook

Town of Amherst Public Meetings

Refer to the town website at <http://amherst.ny.us> for meeting locations and times.

June 1 - Town Board Meeting

June 2 - Glen Park Joint Board

June 3 - Conservation Advisory Council

June 4 - Energy Conservation Citizens Advisory Committee

June 8 - Amherst Veterans Committee, Government Study Committee

June 9 - Recreation Commission

June 10 - Senior Services Advisory Board, Traffic Safety Board, Youth Board

June 11 - Minority / Women Owned Business in Amherst

June 15 - Town Board

June 16 - Amherst Committee on Disabilities, Zoning Board of Appeals, Historic Preservation Commission

June 17 - Recycling and Waste Committee

June 18 - Planning Board

June 19 - Amherst Committee on Disabilities

June 25 - Planning Board

Amherst Police Blotter

All reports are taken from crimereports.com, through the Amherst Police Department web site

May 7

Theft: A petit larceny was reported to police in the 2200 block of Niagara Falls Blvd.

Drugs: An unlawful possession of marijuana report was filed in the 2100 block of Niagara Falls Blvd.

May 8

Breaking and Entering: Amherst police filed a burglary report in the 4300 block of Chestnut Ridge Road.

May 15

Theft: A 4th Degree Grand Larceny report was filed in the 100 block of Jeanmoor Road.

May 16

Theft: A petit larceny was reported in the 1 block of Manor Oak Drive.

Correction

Last month, in reference to the story of the new Willow Ridge phone app, we did not have the correct spelling of some of the names of the students who worked on this new technology. We would like to thank them again this time with the correct spelling of their names.

Thank you to Jiangchuan He, Aniket Mayakal, Libing Wu, Elie Onokoko, and Nse Obot who worked to create the apps for Apple, Android and Windows phones. We also would like to thank board member Derrick Ong for spearheading this project.

Congrats to our Grads!

Justin McNess graduated Cum Laude with a Masters in Accounting/International Business from D'Youville College.

*We are very proud of you.
Love, Mom and Dad*

WRCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, June 9, 2015 7:30 p.m.

Ellicott Creek Fire Hall

All Members Welcome

The Deadline for the July/August issue is June 19

Lifeguards Needed: Ransom Oaks Community is currently accepting applications for Lifeguard positions. All applicants must be certified and over the age of 16. To complete the application go to <http://www.Ransomoaks.com>. Click on **About/Opening**s. Please contact Tom or Kathy Halter at 716-691-7352 if you have any questions.

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Celebrate your grad with an Announcement in the *Wind-in-the-Willows!*

We would like once again to honor high school and college 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 now for publication in the July/August 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.

Please keep in mind that although there are no restrictions on announcement length editing may become necessary.

Celebrate Willow Ridge!

Debby VonLangen, Editor



Willow Ridge Garden Club

The Willow Ridge Garden Club will meet on June 3rd, at 7:00pm at Menne's Nursery, 3100 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst, New York 14228. Menne's horticulturist Lisa Davidson will present a program on the different types and care of African Violets. Time for shopping and desserts will complete the evening. New members are welcome.

GARDEN TIP:

A deep long watering once or twice a week is much better than a short or more frequent watering. Remember never top water while the sun is shining. The water will evaporate faster.



Avoid Joint Pain While Gardening

By Dawn M. Cwierley

May flowers and spring showers have finally arrived in Western New York, providing an opportunity for gardening. However, creating that dream garden requires repetitive bending, kneeling, reaching, and twisting that can take a toll on your body.

According to Matt Clemens, a Willow Ridge resident and physical therapist at Kenmore Mercy Hospital's, "Spring time is a great time to get outside and do yard work. But, I can't stress enough to make prevention a priority."

This time of year, the rehabilitation center sees an increase in patients who have suffered injuries from improper lifting, poor bending techniques, and overexertion.

This includes pain in the lower back, neck and shoulder from staying bent over for long periods of time; hand, wrist, and elbow problems from repetitive use and digging; and knee and hip issues from squatting and kneeling.

Matt added, "Use the proper tool and body positioning when gardening. Just like any sport, it is also important to stretch."

He shared the following tips to avoid gardening injuries: start with light stretching and walk to warm up your muscles; spread out your workload to avoid overexertion; kneel instead of bending to place less strain on your back; keep moving to avoid adding stress on your muscles and joints; lift cautiously with your legs, not your back; and ask for help when needed.



Joseph Battaglia

Licensed Associate Real Estate Broker

Cell: 716.863.4586

Office: 716.689.8100

Email: Joehashome4u@aol.com



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or call Rick VonLangen
at 691-6520

Recycling Update

Modern Disposal had recently issued a letter stating that it was no longer accepting plastic bags or colored glass.

Town Supervisor Barry Weinstein has addressed this with Modern. As a result, Amherst residents may continue to recycle plastic bags, colored glass and items with a #6 triangle.

Tennis Courts

Due to construction of a new turf field at the high school, the Sweet Home Panthers tennis team will temporarily hold practices at the Willow Ridge Elementary court.

All of their matches have been scheduled on the road.

Medication Drop Off

Drop boxes for unwanted/expired PRESCRIPTION medications and used syringes/needles are now located in the lobby of the Town of Tonawanda Police Department at 1835 Sheridan Drive. These drop boxes are accessible 24/7. Citizens can simply stop in the lobby, make their drops, and leave.

Boy Scout Troop 173 Makes A Difference!

Local scouts from Troop 173 pitched in full strength on Sat., May 2nd to help with Spring cleanup at Amherst Baptist Church.

Twenty members of the troop provided much-needed help with multiple projects. They assembled 5 cabinets, repaired dozens of chairs, washed nursery toys & tables, cleaned entrance mats & vestibules, cleaned up landscaping, & even more.

The scouts accomplished so much in just a few hours. What a difference! The congregation really appreciated their help.

To Submit Articles for the

Wind-in-the-Willows

Email: wiweditor@gmail.com; or

place signed articles in porch box at 221 North Brier Road. The deadline is 15th day of the month previous to desired issue.

WILLOW RIDGE LANDSCAPING & SNOWPLOWING, INC.
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Classifieds

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.

For Sale

Ladies Bike: 16" Trek Multitrack 7200, hybrid 24 speed, grip shifter, SRAM gears, Bontrager Select tires, front wheel shocks, seat shocks. Includes Giro helmet, Trek Northern light, (still in box), Cruiser gel seat. Excellent condition. \$225. 691-9526

Gas Grill 35,000 BTU Fiesta (brand Name) manual included \$60.00 716 523 1837 tzaccaria@roadrunner.com

Babysitting Course Available For Teens

Be the best babysitter on the block! Teens wanting to get hired for babysitting jobs should consider taking a training class that teaches great skills and reassures parents their children are safe. Such a course is being offered on Saturday, June 27th from 9am – 3pm for ages 13+. Students will get a book and be presented with a certificate of completion at the end of the course. There is a \$10 fee payable the day of the course.

The Babysitting/First Aid course will be held at Amherst Baptist Church, at the corner of Willow Ridge & Peppertree. The church will provide lunch and snacks. Please contact the church office to sign up at 716.691.9456. There is a maximum of 20 students allowed. Start the summer with great training!

Free VBS Fun

Need a plan for the kids for summer vacation? Why not start out with local Vacation Bible School fun! Children who've completed K-6th grades are invited for games, songs, crafts, snacks & Bible stories at the "Journey Off the Map" VBS Monday – Friday, June 29th – July 3rd, from 9am – 12:30pm.

There is no charge for this fun, busy, wholesome activity. Pre-registration through www.AmherstBaptist.com is requested for proper planning of supplies.

A special Family Celebration will be held Thursday night, July 2nd at 6:30pm for parents to see & hear what the kids have been experiencing all week. An ice cream fellowship will follow.

For more information, please contact Kathryn Napoli, Director of Children's Ministry, at Kathryn@amherstbaptist.com.



FREE!

Vacation Bible School
M – F, June 29th – July 3rd,
9am – 12:30pm

Amherst Baptist Church
corner of Willowridge & Peppertree
Register at
www.AmherstBaptist.com

More information?
Contact Kathryn Napoli, Director of Children's ministry,
at Kathryn@amherstbaptist.com

UNKNOWN TO US, KNOWN TO HIM
ISAIAH 53:3

Town unveils lineup of summer programs, activities

Looking for a wide variety of family-friendly activities this summer? The Town of Amherst has you covered with programs for youths and adults alike. Here's a sampling of the activities and programs going on in your neighborhood:

Summer Programs Registering Now – Amherst Youth & Recreation has many youth and adult summer programs – from swimming to archery, tennis, sports clinics and more! Check us out online at www.amherstyouthandrec.org or pick-up a copy of the Summer Program guide at the Northtown Center at Amherst, Amherst Public library or Amherst Town Hall.

Need to cool off? Residents with a valid Resident Photo ID get free, unlimited use of the town's pools at Clearfield and North Forest this summer. ID cards may only be purchased at the Youth & Recreation program office at the Northtown Center at Amherst. Cost is \$5 per person. Call 631-7132 for further information.

Adult Co-Ed Summer Kickball League - Get a team together and register now for the most fun you'll have this summer!! Teams of 10 players and up ages 18 and over now forming. Games played on Wednesdays, July 1 – August 19 at Dellwood Park & Sattler Field 6:30/7:30pm (8 weeks). To register, visit www.amherstyouthandrec.org or more information contact Jennifer Reed at 689-1404 or e-mail: jreed@amherst.ny.us

Amherst Youth Foundation Annual Golf Classic – taking place Monday, July 27 at the Links at Ivy Ridge. Tee off in support of youth programs in our community! For further information, call 631-7132 or visit www.amherstyouthfoundation.org

YouthWork\$ - Youth Work\$ is a year-round extra job service which links Amherst residents in need of assistance in, or around their homes, with Amherst youth ages 12-19 years who are a part of the program. Residents in need of assistance with jobs such as gardening, light housework child care, or other jobs should contact Youth Work\$ to discuss your needs and ways that we may assist you. Youth interested in joining YouthWork\$ should contact visit www.amherst.ny.us keyword: youthworks. For detailed information call Robin Erwin at 631-7217 or e-mail: rewin@amherst.ny.us

After School Program Registration – After School programs are provided for youth who attend school in the Town of Amherst. The program operates Monday-Friday from 2:00-5:30pm. An Extended Day Program from 5:30-6:00pm is available. Children are bussed from school to the program according to the school district guidelines. Special weekly activities, including cooking, educational games, exercise and group activities are offered. Registration taking place June 15 – June 19, 9:00am – 5:30pm at the Amherst Youth & Recreation office, Northtown Center at Amherst, 1615 Amherst Manor Drive, Williamsville. Detailed registration information and forms available the first week in June online by visiting www.amherstyouthandrec.org or for further information, call 631-7132.

Correction

Our apologies to our friends at Just Pizza. In the new directory on page 13, their name was accidentally left out of the list of advertisers who were offering coupons.

You will find their ad and coupons can be found on page 93 of the directory.

Just Pizza is located at 2319 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst, NY.



Wind-in-the-Willows

Willow Ridge Civic Association

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**June
2015**

Willow Ridge Neighborhood Garage Sale

June 13, 14, 15

If you wish your sale to be on a map, contact

Joe Battaglia, 564-0737

leave a message containing your address.