

Wind-in-the-Willows

Willow Ridge Civic Association

Willow Ridge Civic Association

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Bulletin Board

www.wrca.info

WRCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

June 10, 2008

7:30 p.m Fire Hall

All Welcome!

- **DEADLINE FOR THE July WITW is June 13**
- **Graduates (page 4)**
- **Classified (page 2)**
- **WRCA Mtg. Notice (page 3)**

From the Presidents Desk

Hello Neighbors,

I regret to inform you that the Willow Ridge 10% discount day at Home Depot is terminated. They have opted to no longer provide this benefit to our community. We have enjoyed this privilege for some time and it has provided value to our membership. We will be working to find other programs and opportunities that will add more value to our association. Please watch the *Wind-in-the-Willows* and our web page for more information.

On a good note, on June 10 Jon Powers will be here to meet with our neighbors. He is running for Congress in the 26th congressional district. He will be here to answer questions on topics affecting our world and lives. Let's show our enthusiasm, turn out and take part in a spirited debate.

I would also like to thank John Miller who has agreed to set up and organize National Night Out. He will be working with Gary Rouisse to keep this event alive.

Finally, those of you with pets, please remember to clean up after them and keep them leashed while walking. Your attention to this matter is appreciated. See you soon,

Jim

Annual Willow Ridge Civic Association Picnic

Saturday, July 26, 2008

3:00 pm – Willow Ridge Park

Hot Dogs, Hamburgers and Sausage provided

Bring main dish, drinks and chairs

Renewal of WRCA Softball Game Tradition

The Old Timers vs. The Young Turks

Bring you glove and favorite bat

Attention Willow Ridge!

Join us on June 10 at 7:30

at our next WRCA board meeting when residents will have an opportunity to speak to Jon Powers, democratic hopeful for the U.S. Congress in our 26th congressional district

Details on page 3

Classified Advertisements

Editors Note: *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) and include your address and phone number. *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. Thank you.

For Sale:

Appliance: Kenmore window air conditioner, 53BTU cooling capacity, \$50.00. 691-7704

Automotive: 1999 Jeep Cherokee Limited (4WD): 102,000 miles (mostly highway usage), well maintained/great condition, 6-cylinder/automatic transmission, air conditioning, new tires and brakes, leather interior, power seat, windows & door locks, 10-CD changer, cruise control, alloy wheels, roof rack. Dark green metallic with tan leather. Priced at \$5800.00. 553-7600

House for Sale – 114 N. BRIER4 large bdrm. brick center entrance colonial with 2.5 baths. 3 year old inground pool w/custom stamped concrete patio. Large family room w/WB fireplace. Kitchen & baths recently updated. Basement rec room. French doors from 2 car garage open onto patio and pool. 1st floor laundry & 1/2 bath very conveniently located. Call John Grassi 689-7800.

Household: Classic wall mounted Pottery Barn white medicine cabinet, \$30.00; Chandelier with green globes, \$30.00 691-7087

Furniture: Wood/formica kitchen set with leaf and 4 chairs, \$75.00 691-7087

Lawn and Garden: Lawn Mower, \$75.00 691-7087

Novelty: Bubble Gum Machine for recreation room or business, 25 cent gumballs roll down spiral inside yellow machine, clear globe on top, lifetime guarantee on Beaver coin mechanism, almost five feet tall, good condition, \$150.00. 691-7084

Pets: Cat feeders, 2 PetMate automatic battery-operated feeders. One feeder is for 24 hours and the other is for 48 hours. Cost is \$15.00 for both. 691-7084

Sports and Leisure: Girls' 20" bike, \$15.00 691-7087

Sports and Leisure: Hot tub, Leisure Bay 4 person

spa. 84" x 84" needs minor repair, new cover, \$1250.00 or b/o 691-2661

Sports and Leisure: Roller Blades, Futura, unisex, men's 6 or women's 8. \$5.00; Trampoline for young children, collapsible (folds flat) with handrail 27" x 38" for indoor use, \$20.00; Kayak, Otter, good condition, red, very stable, perfect for beginners, \$199.00; Wet suit, brand name: Execute. Shortie, children's size XS, \$10.00; Wet suit booties, women's size 6. Priced at \$5.00 and \$10.00 a set. 691-7084

Wanted:

Reading Specialist Available: Reading Specialist Available for tutoring. Early literacy skills, reading strategies, ELA test prep. Susan @ 691-5546

Found:

A pair of eye glasses at neighborhood garage sale. Call 691-4518 to pick them up.

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**Save the Date of Tuesday, June 10
7:30 p.m.**

**This save the date notice is from
your WRCA Board.**

At the June WRCA meeting, which is open to all residents, democratic hopeful for U.S. Congress in our 26th congressional district, **Jon Powers**, will be present to meet with our neighbors and answer questions. Jon is a veteran of the Iraqi War, and returned to Iraq, on his own, to work with children. But he is about a lot more than the US occupation of Iraq. This is a rare opportunity for us to spend quality, almost one-on-one time with someone who has a very good chance to be our next congressman. You can ask questions about: the economy, environment, national debt, health care, gun control, social security, education, and whatever else is important to you. You'll have the chance to look into his eyes, and judge the sincerity and character of his beliefs. Please, the board is encouraging all Willow Ridgers to attend; and maybe there will be coffee and donuts, too!

School News

June 2008

- 2 Boys Spring Sports Banquet, 6pm, HS; Alumni Mtg. 7:30pm @ NVCC; PTO Meeting, 7pm MS
- 3 Field Day & Bike Rodeo, WR; PTO Meeting, 7pm, WR; NYS Gr. 8 Social Studies Assessment, 6/3-6/4
- 4 Grade 7 Awards, 3:30pm, MS
- 5 PTSA Meeting, 7pm @HS Library; GAA Banquet, 6:30pm @ Samuel's Grande Manor
- 6 Art Show, 4-7pm, MS
- 7 SAT I & II, 7:45am, HS; Senior Prom, 6-11pm @ Rich Renaissance Niagara
- 10 BOE Study Session, 7pm @ NVCC
- 11 Health & Wellness Committee Meeting, 3:30pm @ NVCC; Health & Safety Committee Meeting, 6pm @ DO; 8th Grade Awards, 3:30pm, MS
- 13 8th Grade Party, 7-10pm, MS; Flag Day, WR; 5th Grade Swim Party
- 14 ACT, 7:45am, HS
- 17 Senior Scholars Breakfast, 7:45am, HS; Graduation Rehearsal, HS; BOE Meeting, 7pm @ NVCC; Regents Exams, 6/17-6/26
- 24 Final Attendance Day Grades K-5; 5th Grade Moving Up Day, 9am, WR
- 26 Senior Awards Night, 7pm @ Classics V Rest, HS.; End of Year Luncheon, MS
- 27 Commencement Ceremonies, 6pm @ UB Center for the Arts; Superintendent's Conference Day/Staff Development Day

Note: "School News" is taken from the District Calendar. Events subject to change. Please read school handouts and mailings.

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To Submit Articles for the *Wind-in-the-Willows*, submit to 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.

Willow Ridge Salutes the Graduates of 2008

Our 2008 College Graduates

Cornell University Graduate

The Shaw household at 328 Denrose, is proud to announce that Jaclyn graduated from Cornell University with a 3.96 GPA. She was accepted into the medical school programs at Columbia, Northwestern, UB, and UCSF. She has selected to move to the west coast to attain a joint MD/MS degree at UC Berkeley/UCSF. Her research will focus on women's health.

University of Maryland (Baltimore) Law School Graduate

Jonathan M. Kucskar, son of Tom and Gaylynn Kucskar and brother of Maryssa Kucskar (Sweet Home High School Class of 2005) of 160 N. Brier Road graduated from the University of Maryland Law School on May 16. Jonathan previously graduated from Sweet Home High School in 1999, and Boston College in 2003. After passing (we assume) his Maryland/DC bar exam in late July, Jonathan will start a one year assignment as a court clerk for the US District Court in Greenbelt, MD. His future plans include working for the government accountability office in Washington, DC. *Go Jonathan; you're the best and we can't believe how much you've accomplished in such a short period of time!!!!*

Niagara County Community College Graduate

I, Jerry W. Ketch, 297 Rockdale Ct. am very proud of my only son—Scott G. Ketch, who is graduating from Niagara County Community College in May 2008 with a Certificate in Local Area Networks and an Associates Degree in Computer Information Systems. He carried 19 credit hours over the past two semesters and also made the Dean's list. Due to graduating with 77 credit hours, he will be able to complete his Bachelor's Degree in Computer Information Systems at Buffalo State College by December 2009 and pursue a job as a network administrator or computer programmer in the Buffalo area.

State University of New York Stony Point Graduate

Kristina E. Sykes, daughter of Don and Barb Sykes of 66 Sweetwood Dr. N. graduated May 23, 2008 from SUNY Stony Point with a Masters of Social Work (MSW). *Well done Kristi, congratulations! Love! Mom, Dad, and John (from California)*

Our 2008 High School Graduates

Mount Saint Mary Graduate

The Shaw household at 328 Denrose has another reason to celebrate graduation. Jessica is a 2008 Mt. St. Mary graduate who earned scholarships from Johnson and Wales, Hobart and William Smith Colleges and Wells. She will be pursuing her dream of becoming a pastry chef by attending Niagara Community College followed by the Culinary Institute of America (CIA).

Saint Joseph Collegiate Institute Graduate

Congratulations to Michael A. Vizzi on his graduation from St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute. *We are so proud of all you have accomplished—from the leadership positions you held to the high school performances you were in. You are a true inspiration and blessing to your family and friends and we will miss you next year when you go away to SUNY Geneseo!!! We love you and pray for God's continued blessing in your life. Dad, Mom, and Brandon*

Sweet Home High School Graduates

Congratulations to Allison Feger of 396 Willow Ridge Drive, who is graduating from Sweet Home in June. *Allison, wonderful job! We are so proud of you. Good luck at SUNY Brockport. Love, Mom and Trevor*

Congratulations to Jeffrey Stone, Sweet Home Class of 2008! *We are proud of all your accomplishments, and your continuous success in everything you do. Good luck at Brockport this fall. Onward and Upward! Love: Fath, Mom, Laura and the Gin*

Congratulations to Amanda Cannizzo, Sweet Home Class of 2008. *You continue to amaze us! Love, Mom, Dad, Corey, Mookie and Noonie.*

Congratulations to Alicia Saunders, 123 Amberwood Dr. who graduates from Sweet Home High School in June. Alicia will be attending Buffalo State College, with the goal of becoming an elementary school teacher. *Congratulations Li, we are so very proud of you and your accomplishments! We're sure you will succeed at whatever you do. Love, Mom, Dad, and Jenny*

Congratulations to Alissa Powers, of 153 Rockdale Drive, who is graduating from Sweet Home High School in June. Alissa will be attending Medaille College in September majoring in elementary and special education. *Congratulations Alissa! We love you and are so proud of you. Love, Mom and Caitlin*

WRCA MINUTES

May 13, 2008

Vice President Bob Foladare called the meeting to begin at 7:33 pm..

In attendance were Jim Prentice, Bob Foladare, Ed Goetz, Clayton Cobb, John Cowden, Jon Radens, Pat Land and Cam Hill. In the gallery were Lee Baker, Jack Baker, Tom Halter, Ben Procopio, John Grassi, Ron and Patrice Smeller.

The secretaries minutes from April's meeting were read and a motion was made to approve the minutes by Pat Land and a second was made by Ed Goetz, followed by a board approval.

Treasure's Report:

The treasure's report was brought forth by Ed Goetz. Ed reported that all membership money had been collected. He also stated that all expenses pertaining to events and usual monthly expenses had been paid.

Ed reported that the process for completing the 501- C3 for tax exempt status was almost complete and that Jack Baker was helping with the final steps.

Ben Procopio the independent auditor reported that his review of the WRCA records was satisfactory.

A motion was made to accept the report by John Cowden and a second was made by John Radens. The board approved the report.

President's Report:

Vice president Bob Foladare briefly filling in for Jim Prentice shared a complaint from a resident that the sprinkler at the fire hall was soaking his fence. He felt that this was

causing excessive wear to the fence. The board will contact the fire hall for adjustment possibilities.

Bob also gave information pertaining to the loss of trees in front of Willow Ridge homes.

He offered information that a resident could go on the Town of Amherst website and request a tree for replacement.

Membership Report:

Ed Goetz gave the membership report for Kerri Jasen. He reported that 830 had joined this year and that is was slightly less than last year.

Old Business:

President Jim Prentice gave information on Home Depot's final decision to cancel the 10% discount to Willow Ridge residents. A motion was made to send the Town a letter stating WRCA's dissatisfaction with Home Depot's decision to continue with the garden center without WRCA future approval and that this was a violation of the original deed restriction. The board approved the motion and a letter will be sent by Neil Cuomo.

Pat Land gave his report on the ball field project. He stated that the project was under budget and that the fields look great. Jeffery Hicks sent his appreciation for the project and Pat would like to thank all who helped to make that day a success.

Jim Prentice reviewed that the National Night Out had a possible chair person and the event will take place. He did ask the board to be more involved with the process to help facilitate the event.

New Business:

Information was given to the WRCA that notices will be going out in reference to sidewalk repair issues.

Committee Reports:

(Continued on page 7)

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Amherst Museum

3755 Tonawanda Creek Rd, Amherst

\$5/Adults, \$1.50/Children, Museum Members Free

Open to Public Tuesday—Friday, 9:30a.m.—4:30

p.m. Saturday-Sunday 12:30-4:30p.m. www.amherstmuseum.org; 689-1440

June 7: Summer Exhibit—Exploring America's Labor

History-Presented by National Archives and Smithsonian Present Traveling Exhibition, features 86 photographs from the National archives focusing on the history of work in America and documenting work clothing, locales, conditions, and conflicts. The stop at the Amherst Museum is part of a 14-city national tour continuing through 2010, created by the National Archives with the support of the Foundation for the National Archives and is organized for travel by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES).

June 7: Lace-making Seminar—the Museum Lace Guild will present a slide lecture "Care and Conservation of Textiles at 9 a.m. Demonstrations and "quick try it" stations will be open 10:30am—1pm Classes held in the afternoon and Merchants Mall open throughout the day. Classes include first lessons in bobbin lace, knitted lace, tatting and Romanian lace. General admission for lecture, demonstrations and Merchant's Mall is \$5; classes are priced \$20 with a nominal kit fee. Pre-registration is required for afternoon classes.

June 14-15: Civil War Living History Weekend—300 Re-enactors living as mid-19 century soldiers. Open to the public Saturday 10am—5pm and Sunday 11am.—4pm. Talk to soldiers, visit camps, tour historic buildings, watch artillery demonstrations, watch a battle, listen to music of the era, join in camp dancing, and shop with battlefield vendors. Admission \$6/adults, \$3/children, museum members/\$1 off. Call or visit website for schedule.

June 18: Moving Lighthouses Lecture—first speaker in lecture series will be Joe Jukubik of International Chimney Corporation, who will describe his work moving lighthouses and other masonry structures. Admission \$3, Museum members free.

July 18, 19, 26, 27; Aug 1: Blacksmith School—learn basic skills of building and managing coal fired and gas forges, tool making, forge welding. Students will go home with the projects and tools they have made. Intended for absolute beginners. Classes open to men and women over 18, and kept to a maximum of 8 students. For registration and info call Jean@ the museum.

July 21-25: Discovery School Day Camp—Children 8-12 explore the world of *Entertainment*; including amusement parks, radio, the circus and 19th and 20th century forms of entertainment. Also includes crafts, cooking, creative writing, speakers and field trip. 9am—3pm each day; tuition is \$125. Members and multiple children from the same family receive discount.

Amherst Museum announces a new season of our Book Club, free to public. The Amherst Museum Fiction Book Club meets the fourth Monday of each month to discuss fiction, biographies, mysteries and more. New members are always welcome. A complete list of books selected by the club for 2008 is available by calling the Amherst Museum. Anyone wanting to attend is asked to contact librarian Toniann Scime at 689-1440 or at amu-seum@adelphia.net to register. Admission to the club is free, but advance registration is necessary.

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WRCA WEB PAGE www.wrca.info

Did you know that Willow Ridge has its own web page? Go to www.wrca.info to discover the Willow Ridge Civic Association web page. Explore the interesting components of **Events**, **Wind-in-the-Willows**, **Photo Gallery**, and **Consumer Discounts**. Check on **Links** to discover associated organizations. Upload, for posting your photograph of neighborhood events. Click on the **Registration** link to submit your e-mail address to receive advanced copies of the **Wind-in-the-Willows** and notices of special events and important meetings affecting our neighborhood. Get involved with your Civic Association through the WRCA Web Page. www.wrca.info

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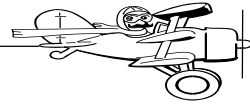
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Congratulations

Rick and Debby VonLangen wish to announce the early arrival of their second grandchild, Leo Edward Burns on April 11, 2008. Leo, the first child of April VonLangen Burns and Larry Burns arrived in dramatic fashion six weeks early, weighing in at 6 lbs. 2 oz. and measuring 19 inches in length. After a brief stay at Women and Children's Hospital NICU, he is thriving on huge portions of love and attention fit for a king.

Great Strides Walk


On Sunday, May 18 the "Great Strides Walk" to find a cure for Cystic Fibrosis was held in Williamsville. This was one of many held throughout the country. Williamsville's total collection was over \$43,000. We were able to donate \$300. We would like to thank the many friends and neighbors from the Willow Ridge area for their generous contributions. Our granddaughter, Victoria, 10, is doing great! Thank you! Frank and Virginia Winter.

To the Members of the Willow Ridge Civic Assoc.

Don't forget to take advantage of the numerous coupons this year in the 2008 directory. Take a look at the following advertisers that have included some great coupons in the back of the directory:

Allstate Insurance Co. * Amherst Pizza & Ale House * Anderson's * Boulevard Optical * Capital Fence Co. * Dr. Donald Wagner * Family Fun RV Rental of WNY * fit for HER Life, Matt.6:33 * Franco's Pizza * Hagen Chiropractic * Herbalife * Ink & More * John & Mary's * Leo Brennon Top Soil * Logics Hair Salon * Midas Muffler * Ortner's Garage Doors & Electric Openers * Realty USA * Sam Smith School of Dance * Shannon Pub * Shear Review * Sunset Plumbing & Heating * Sweet Home Federal Credit Union * The Original Pizza Shack * Walsh Duffield & M Insurance * Willow Ridge Convenient * Wm. C. Rott & Son

ATTENTION: ANY WILLOW RIDGE RESIDENT WHO IS INTERESTED IN JOINING THE ELLICOTT CREEK VOUNTEER FIRE CO. MAY CONTACT THE FIRE CHIEF AT 691-7439 EXT. 230.



(Continued from page 5)

WRCA MINUTES

Summer Picnic: Neil Cuomo announced the date for the Bedford Park summer picnic. It will be on July 26th, starting at 3pm. WRCA will provide the meat and buns. Participants are encouraged to bring a dish to pass or extras for your family. Games and activities will also take place.

Garage Sale: John Cowden reported that the garage sale will take place the weekend of May 17th. He said that 40 residents have contacted him to participate and he expects more. Maps and sign will be provided to direct our customers.

Scholarships: Bob Foladare reported that all processes have taken place to allow the awards to be given.

A motion was made to adjourn by Clayton Cobb at 8:38 pm and a second was given Pat Land. The board ended the meeting.

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2008**

GRADUATION ARRIVES...

It is hard to believe it, but another school year is ending, and we want to be one of the first to congratulate our 2008 graduates by listing them all in the *Wind-in-the-Willows*. After all, they are our own Willow Ridgers and we are duly proud of them. If you have



not yet done so, it is not too late! Submit your graduate's name, address, and graduating school (college or high school). Include any accomplishments and/or goals for the future you wish. To make the announcement extra special, be sure to include a signed "one-liner;" a message to your graduate. Please type or print on a full sheet of paper and have it in to me by June 13 to insure the July edition.

If you are a bit late, submit it anyway and I will do my best to add it to the July issue. If not it will appear in the August *Wind-in-the-Willows*. Drop off your announcement in the box on my porch at 221 North Brier or email me a wiweditor@gmail.com. Please keep in mind that although there are no more restrictions on length of announcement, some editing may become necessary. Just take a look at the wonderful grads we already congratulated on page 4! Come on, proud moms and dads! Here's your chance to show off your graduate!

Debby VonLangen
Editor



Wind-in-the Willows
Advertising Rates

Whole Page	\$150.00
Half Page	\$90.00
Quarter Page	\$50.00
Eighth Page	\$30.00

10% discount with a 12 month commitment. WRCA members can save an additional 10%. For more info. contact Cam Hill @ 481-4310

**NOTICE:
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WILLOW RIDGE.**