

December 2017



Wind in the Willows

Message from the President

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Winter is Here

I hope everybody enjoyed their Thanksgiving Holiday! Now on to the Holidays of December: Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Winter Solstice and Topped off with New Years!

We have a Great Neighborhood with fantastic and concerned residents and we do have one of the strongest Civic Association in Western New York!

I would like to welcome Erin Murphy-Kubiak, our newest contributor to The WITW! She will be doing a monthly section for Willow Ridge Elementary School and the PTO.

Please check out our New Website! WRCA.US

Please remember to renew your WRCA Membership and spread the word to new neighbors about us!

- H. Erich Krueger



UPCOMING EVENTS

**Tree Lighting
Holiday Home
Decorating Contest.
December 16, 17 & 18**

**Next WRCA Board
Meeting Dec 12th
at 7:30pm to 9pm**

**Ellicott Creek
Volunteer Fire
Company
45 S Ellicott Creek Rd,
Amherst, NY 14228**

**Please check out
WRCA New
Website WRCA.US**

Last Board Meeting was very productive; one of the items touched on was that the board be a more civil group and what I mean by that is we as a group work harder to bring more people into the fold. What we all need to remember is, we are all volunteers, The Board and the Members who chair events and the Members who help at those events. We always need volunteers and people to get involved.

My hope at the end of my term is that we beef up the board so much that we can have elections for board positions instead of people drawing the shortest straw.

Contact Us

President

Erich Krueger 691-9952 or
949-2561

Vice President

Tom Amodeo 250-9928

Secretary

Jane Sieman 870-3412

Treasurer

Donna Mosteller 465-8436

Board of Directors

Andy Annesi 812-8851

Cassandra Schwab 982-3984

Marijean Nichols 691-4375

John Radens 691-7389

Membership/Circulation

Jane Sieman 870-3412

Wind In The Willows

Marijean Nichols 691-4375

Advertising Sales - WITW

Andy Annesi 812-8851

Directory

Jane Sieman 870-3412

Visit us on the web at

WRCA.US

Share your stories!

Do you know of a new neighbor or maybe a long time friend leaving Willow Ridge? Have you or your child made a significant achievement lately?

We want to know about letters of intent, National Honor Society honorees, special certifications, Girl Scout Gold Awards, Boy Scout Eagle Scouts, and much more!

Send your news and photos to 136 Dalewood Drive or email it to WITW@WRCA.US.

Follow us on Facebook
Willow Ridge Civic Association



Here are some inspiring and famous quotations about the gift of life and how to live a good life:

"Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is a mystery. Today is a gift. That's why we call it 'The Present'." – Eleanor Roosevelt

"Fall seven times, stand up eight." – Japanese Proverb

"What one can be one must be." – Unknown

"Life is a gift." – Unknown

"Not only must we be good, but we must also be good for something." – Henry David Thoreau

"You've got to do your own growing, no matter how tall your grandfather was." – Irish Proverb

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." – Winston Churchill

"Row, row, row your boat. Gently down the stream. Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily, life is but a dream." – Alice Munro

"I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do." – Edward Everett Hale

"Have a heart that never hardens, and a temper that never tires and a touch that never hearts." – Charles Dickens

"May you live all the days of your life." – Jonathan Swift

"The time is always right to do what is right." – Martin Luther King, Jr.
"Do a little more than you're paid to. Give a little more than you have to. Try a little harder than you want to. Aim a little higher than you think possible, and give a lot of thanks to God for health, family, and friends." – Art Linkletter

"Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined." - Henry David Thoreau

"Climb ev'ry mountain, Ford ev'ry stream, Follow ev'ry rainbow, 'Til you find your dream." – Sound of Music

I have buyers for Willow Ridge, call me to find out what your home is worth!



JOSEPH BATTAGLIA
Associate Real Estate Broker

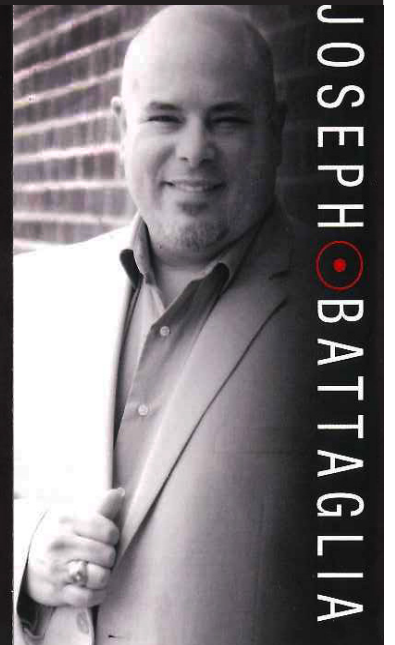
Cell: 716-863-4586

joehashome4u@aol.com

5500 Main St, Ste 108
Williamsville, NY 14221
716-832-3300



Each Office Independently Owned and Operated



JOSEPH BATTAGLIA

WRCA Minutes

WRCA MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2017

The November WRCA meeting was called to order at 7:37 pm by President Erich Krueger.

In attendance were President Erich Krueger, Treasurer Donna Mosteller, Secretary Jane Sieman, and Board Members Cassandra Schwab and Marijean Nichols.

Excused was Vice President Tom Amodeo, Board Members John Radens and Andy Annesi. Also in attendance was Jim & Jane Steel.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Motion was made to approve the October meeting minutes by Marijean Nichols and seconded by Cassandra Schwab.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Donna Mosteller submitted a treasurer's report. Income for the month of October was \$1,804.50. Expenses for the month of October was \$850.46. The balance for the end of October was \$4,960.17. Motion made to accept treasurer's report by Cassandra Schwab and seconded by Jane Sieman.

DISCUSSION

Meeting procedures were discussed and reviewed by the board to ensure all monthly meetings are well run and done in a timely and orderly fashion.

President Erich Krueger and Secretary Jane Sieman

attended the Willow Ridge PTO meeting tonight to convey that we are available to assist the PTO in events and that they may use WRCA as a resource to getting news out to our residents. A monthly article in the Wind In The Willows from the PTO was discussed. It was agreed that this will be a monthly feature starting with our December issue. WRCA will have a table at the Harvest Dance this Friday and offered to run a game at the February Frolics.

Membership Drive for

2018 - Jane Sieman reported. November WITW was mailed to all residents of Willow Ridge with a membership invoice and addressed envelope inserted. Memberships have started to arrive via mail as well as the PayPal system.

Discussion on payment of invoices to WRCA. All emailed invoices must go to treasurer@wrca.us. Any invoices for payment, if mailed, should be brought to the meeting. All checks for payments will be made out on the 2nd Tuesday of every month after the monthly meeting and mailed by noon the next day unless other arrangements have specifically been made.

New Website - President Erich Krueger is updating WRCA's website. The new website address is now WRCA.US.

New Board Members - WRCA is in need of 2 new board members. Any interested Willow Ridge member can contact a WRCA Officer or Board Member for more information. Contacts and phone numbers are listed in this issue of the WITW.

Halloween Party on Saturday, October 21, 2017 was a success! Thank you to Cassandra Schwab for another great Children's event! Over 60 children attended. Thank you to all who volunteered and to all who participated in the Trunk and Treat event. *Fun was had by all!*

Wine Tasting - Tentatively looking at holding this event in April.

There being no further business at hand, the meeting came to a close at 8:14 p.m. Motion was made by Donna Mosteller to adjourn and seconded by Marijean Nichols. Next Willow Ridge Civic Assoc. meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 12th at 7:30 p.m. in Ellicott Creek Fire Hall.

Respectfully submitted, Jane Sieman - WRCA Secretary

NEXT WRCA MEETING

Next WRCA Board Meeting
Dec 12th at 7:30pm to 9pm
at: Ellicott Creek Volunteer
Fire Company
45 S Ellicott Creek Rd,
Amherst, NY 14228



For Sale

Black & Decker Power Saw
Black & Decker Drill Press
Craftsman Radial Saw 10"
Pro-tech Bench Grinder 6"
716-691-4660

Cub Scout Holiday card delivery and Cans for Cubs Collection Cub Scout Pack 173 ~ Thank You for your support ~

Cans for Cubs 2018

Cub Scout Pack 173 will be holding our annual pop can/bottle drive on Saturday, January 6, 2018 from 10am-12pm. Money earned from the returns will be donated to a charitable organization. On Saturday, January 6th, please leave your NY stamped returnable cans & bottles in a plastic bag on your front porch or driveway. Our scouts and their parents will be coming around to pick them up between the hours of 10 and 12. You can also call 860-3921 to arrange a pickup (leave message, be sure to include your address). Only NY stamped returnable pop/beer cans & bottles will be accepted at our redemption center (no recyclables or wine/liquor bottles). Thank you once again for your continued support.



Holiday Card Delivery

As a community service for Willow Ridge, the Cub Scout of Pack 173 will be happy to help you deliver your holiday cards to your neighbors. Drop your cards into the collection bin that will be located at 330 Willow Green Drive and we will take care of the rest! The bin will be available from Friday, November 24th up until 5pm on Thursday, December 14th. Weather permitting, all cards will be delivered that weekend. Please make sure your cards are clearly labeled with the recipients name and street address. For the safety of our scouts, we can only deliver to residential homes within Willow Ridge. We regret that we cannot deliver to apartments, condos, the elder care facility or Ellicott Creek Drive North.



Annual Santa Run & Food Drive Ellicott Creek Volunteer Fire Company Annual Santa Run & Food Drive Saturday December 16, 2017 4 PM - 9:30 PM

It's that time of year again!!! We will be bringing Santa Clause around the district to check on all of the little boys and girls. As usual we will have the Boy Scouts with us to collect non perishable food to benefit the Saint Christopher's Food Pantry. See you all then!!





Now Accepting Applications for the Spring 2018 Citizen Police Academy

The Amherst Police Department Citizen’s Police Academy (CPA) is accepting applications for the 2018 Academy. The next CPA program will begin Feb. 6 and will run for 14 consecutive weeks, with the final class being held on May 8. Classes are from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Amherst police headquarters, 500 John James Audubon Parkway.

The CPA is open to adult town residents as well as individuals who are employed within the geographic boundaries of the Town of Amherst. According to police officials, CPA has been a highly successful program in the past and has been well received and appreciated by prior attendees.

Topics to be covered in the coming year’s program will include a tour of headquarters, recruitment and training of the officers, crime prevention, “a day in the life of a police officer,” accident investigation and criminal investigation.

Other topics include crime intelligence, firearms, crime scene processing, domestic violence, criminal law, and narcotics, gambling and vice. Presentations will be held by the Traffic Bureau, Detective Bureau, Emergency Response Team, crime lab, Special Victims Unit, K-9 unit and more. Students in the class will be given the opportunity to go on a ride-along patrol with an officer.

Interested applicants can pick up an application at police headquarters or download one from the Police Department’s Web page, which is through the town’s website, ww.amherst.ny.us. Applications may also be downloaded at the police’s Facebook page. #cpa2018

**WRCA BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 12, 2017 at 7:30 PM
Ellicott Creek Volunteer Fire Company,
45 S. Ellicott Creek Road
Downstairs Meeting Room**

Alissa Shields will present an update of the Cell Tower Moratorium and the Codes.

I have invited members of the Amherst Town Board to attend.

Any questions feel free to send me an email.

President@wrca.us
Erich Krueger WRCA President



WILLOW RIDGE COMMUNITY DIRECTORY FOR THE YEAR 2018

It is time to begin putting the Willow Ridge Community Directory together again and you are invited to place an advertisement in the 2018 edition. Our directory will carry your advertising message into the homes of the community you serve in a handy 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 booklet that is kept, read, and used for a full year by our Willow Ridge residents.

The directory (published in the spring of each year) lists the names, addresses and telephone numbers of more than 1,200 families who live in the Willow Ridge area. Residents rely on it to contact neighbors and committees and to locate local goods and services. The directory is especially useful to those who are just moving into the area.

Prices are based on "camera-ready" copy, clear, black and white copies of a previous ad or one from another publication the same size as the one you wish to place in our directory. Typesetting will be extra. Minor changes are free. You may obtain quotes or help in setting up your ad by calling the Directory Chairperson. Full page ads are \$150.00, half pages are \$85.00, and quarter pages are \$55.00.

Ads that are purchased and paid by December 20, 2017 will receive a 10 % discount. Ads will be placed in the directory in the order of receipt from front to back.

Many advertisers find our coupons to be helpful in generating business. We offer a coupon free of charge with any half or full page ad. (Quarter page advertisers can place a coupon in the directory for a \$4.00 fee). By offering a discount or special price for your goods or services, you draw attention to your advertisement. Coupons appear in a special tear-out section while your paid advertisement remains in the directory throughout the year.

If anyone is interested in placing an ad in our 2018 Willow Ridge Directory, please complete the following request and mail it or drop it off to me along with your ad at 80 Sweetwood Drive North or mail to me at P.O. Box 86, Amherst, NY 14226. I will be accepting ads til Jan. 20, 2018.

Thank you,
Jane Sieman Directory Editor
Telephone: 870-3412 Email: jsie44@yahoo.com

**PLACE
YOUR AD HERE**
Contact
Advertising Sales
Andy Annesi
812 - 8851
for information

DJ Erich

www.beatboxsound.com

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DJ ERICH KRUEGER

PH 716-949-2561

E-Mail: dj_erich@beatboxsound.com
www.facebook.com/djekrueger





ADVERTISING REQUEST FOR WILLOW RIDGE COMMUNITY DIRECTORY YEAR 2018

Name of Company _____

Point Of Contact
& Phone No. _____

Address _____

Email Address _____

We would like to purchase the following:

| | | |
|--|----------|-------|
| Full Page (V-7.5" X H-4.5") | \$150.00 | _____ |
| 1/2 Page (V-3.7" X H-4.5") | \$ 85.00 | _____ |
| 1/4 Page (V-3.7" X H-1.5") or (V-1.75" X H-4.5") | \$ 55.00 | _____ |

Discount:

Pay by December 20, 2017 - 10% _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

(Deadline January 20, 2018 – Money & Ad due by January 20, 2018)

**Make checks payable to Willow Ridge Civic Association and mail to:
Jane Sieman Directory Editor P.O. Box 86 Amherst, NY 14226**

Coupon (text below)

Please note:coupons are free with 1/2 or full page ad; \$4.00 with 1/4 ad.

C O U P O N T E X T :

Our block reps are key to us staying in touch with Willow Ridge residents

Volunteering to become a Block Representative is a great way to keep current with the news of your neighbors and also to be involved in our community. Some duties include welcoming new families, keeping up on births, marriages, promotions and other life changes, promoting special events, informing neighbors of civic concerns, canvassing your block in the beginning of the year either by visiting or calling for the directory update and membership reminders.

If you are interested in becoming a block representative, I have listed areas that are still in need of a volunteer. As some of the sections below seem to be big areas, volunteers only need to cover up to a 10 - 12 house area. However, please feel free to cover as large of a section as you want.

If you are interested in volunteering, please do not hesitate to call Jane Sieman at 870-3412 or Cassandra Schwab at 982-3984. Your help is greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance.

Block Reps are needed in these areas below:

64-165 Dalewood Dr. **** Denrose Dr. **** 775- 933 Edgewater Dr. *****
 Elderwood Ct. **** 74 - 119 Grasspointe **** Jonathan Pl. **** 109 - 487 Kaymar Dr.
 **** 205 - 248 North Brier Rd. **** Peppertree Dr. ***** Red Maple Ct. ****
 6 - 50 Rockdale Dr. **** 13 - 138 Rockdale Dr. **** Roundwood Ct. ****
 S. Ellicott Creek Rd. **** 113 - 481 Willow Green Dr. **** Willow Lane Ct. ****
 130 - 218 Willow Ridge Dr. **** 282 - 316 Willow Ridge Dr.

The N&W Snowflake Dance 2018
March 3rd 2018
Classics V
More Details Coming!



Community News

WILLOW RIDGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION 2018 Membership Invoice -DUES-

DUES FOR 2018 ARE \$17.00. Please renew/join by December 31, 2017.

PAYMENT METHODS:

-- Mail your check payable to: WILLOW RIDGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

**PLEASE FILL OUT FORM BELOW WITH ALL CURRENT INFORMATION FOR THE
2018 WILLOW RIDGE DIRECTORY. THANK YOU.**

Adult Last Name _____ First Name _____

Adult Last Name _____ First Name _____

Street Address _____

Phone Number _____

Children's Names _____

Babysitter Directory Listing:

Name: _____ Age: _____ Telephone: _____

**Please provide email address used for E-Wind and Newsletter only.
Email address will NOT be published in WRCA Directory.**

E-mail Address(es) _____

The following information is for the WRCA app:

Occupation: _____

Interest/talents you wish to share _____

_____ I wish to volunteer to assist with WRCA activities such as Junior Recreation, Snowflake
Dinner Dance, National Night Out, etc...

- COMMENTS -

No Solicitors

Sample of Sticker

There have been complaints about solicitors knocking on doors in our neighborhood. I spoke with Amherst Police Chief about this. He too has had this annoyance in his neighborhood. His recommendations are “No Solicitors” posted on your door. If you do get solicitors and they do not show a badge and ID of some sort or they are knocking on doors after dark or just seem out of sorts, feel free to contact the Amherst Police Department and let them sort it out. (716) 689-1311



We are looking into a “No Solicitors” window sticker to give to WRCA Members.

If we go ahead with this sticker it would come out with the Willow Ridge Civic Association’s Directory. The graphic is an sample idea of what the sticker would look like.

~ Erich Krueger



***Holiday Home
Decorating Contest***
Show your holiday spirit and deck the halls and your homes for our annual Holiday Home Decorating Contest. Judging will be December 16, 17 & 18

DESIGN A COVER CONTEST FOR THE 2018 WILLOW RIDGE DIRECTORY

We are bringing back the popular Design a Cover Contest for the Willow Ridge Directory, WRCA will be holding the design contest for the cover of the 2018 Willow Ridge Directory for all Willow Ridge Civic Association members up to and including the age of 16. All entries must be hand drawn – (not a computer image) on paper the size of the directory (vertical 8.5” x horizontal 5”) to avoid distortion when producing actual cover. No names on the drawings please. All drawings must be submitted along with the entry form in this issue of the WITW. No staples please. All drawings must contain at least one willow tree and be in color.

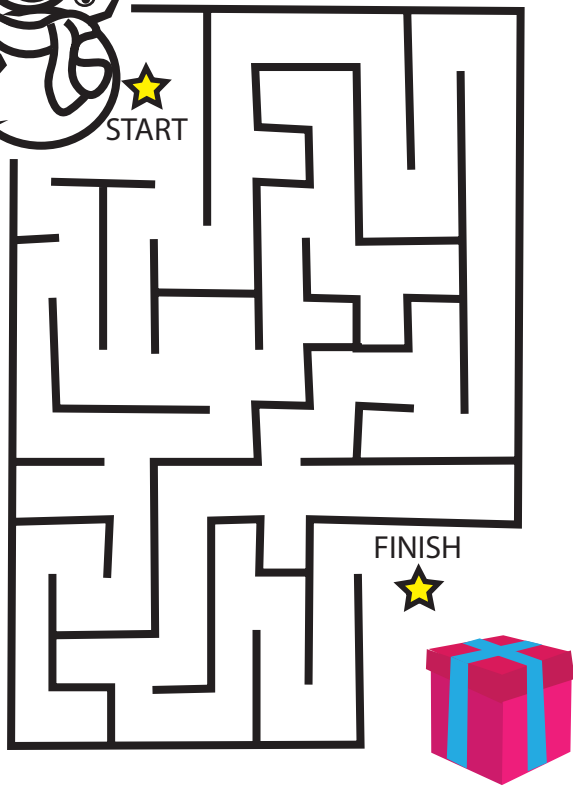
There will be three winners. These winners will be published in the April issue of the WITW. The cover winner will be chosen from those 3 winners. This winner will have their drawing published in full color on the cover of the 2018 directory along with their name inside the directory. The first place winner will receive a \$25.00 Walmart gift card and second and third place winners will win a \$10.00 Walmart gift card with honorable mention in the directory. Winning entries will be based on originality, creativity, and community spirit. Entry form with rules, judging information, submission information and deadline date is in this issue of the WITW on page 13..

Enjoy, have fun and good luck!

Kids Corner



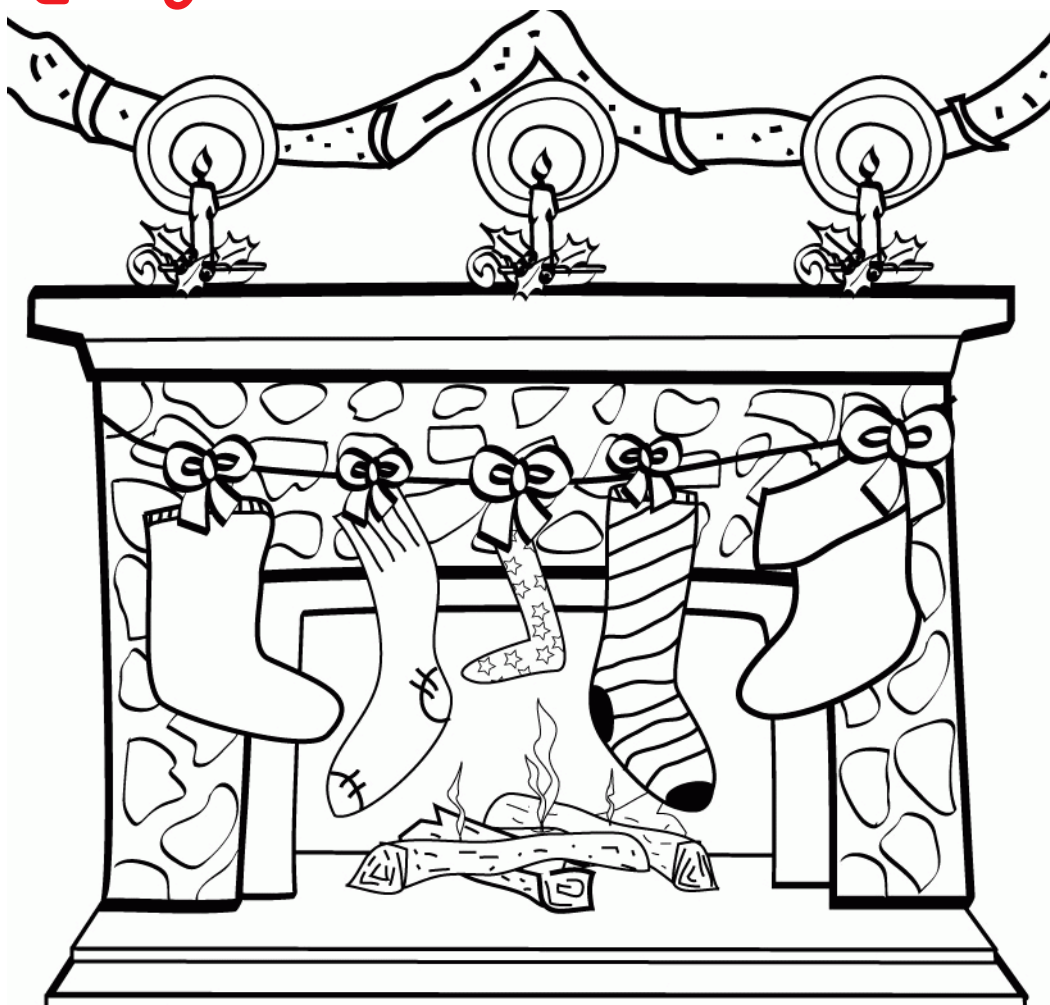
Help Frosty get through the maze to find his gift.



s u b c a n d y
 l s b a l l e k
 e n e l f t e d
 d o l l s e r k
 t w i g t r e e
 o w n i a x a i
 y b m f r m w c
 s a n t a f r b

ball elf snow
 bell gift tree
 candy santa toy
 deer sled tree

Color Me In



A good life comes from having the right attitude and taking the right actions

Here a few things that make life great:

- Having fun
- Enjoying the love of family and friends
- Doing things that you love to do
- Becoming all that you can be
- Helping others enjoying each moment
- Write or draw what you want to become in life

Willow Ridge PTO News and Events

HARVEST DANCE 2017

This annual event was held November 17 in the school cafeteria. The Harvest Dance is a time for kids in all grades to come and dance, hang out with their friends, get their face painted and more. This year - in addition to the family-friendly dance, the PTO held a non-perishable food drive to benefit the Amherst Baptist Food Pantry and the local Girl Scout Troop collected donations for Coats for Kids. Our community showed how amazing it really is because we collected over 200 canned goods and over 300 coats! It was an amazing night that can only be made possible because of the dedicated organizers, volunteers, parents, vendors, students and staff. Thank you!

School Programs:

WILLOW RIDGE GIVING TREE CEREMONY to benefit the Amherst Warm Clothing Project. Children in Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades are encouraged to bring in NEW Winter hats, mittens, gloves and scarves. The 3rd, 4th and 5th graders are asked to donate non-perishable food items. These are due Dec 15.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION – the holidays are here, so please be on the lookout for any box tops labels when cooking or baking. Non-expired box-tops help us get free money for items we can use in various school activities. These can be dropped off at the school or contact the PTO thru the school or our Facebook Page and we can arrange a pickup.

WINTER WONDERLAND SHOP – This is a great opportunity for the kids to come to school and go shopping for holiday presents for their family. This will run Dec 5-7. Volunteers are always welcome to help kids pick out the perfect gift or to help wrap.



Upcoming Events

For more information visit the sweethomeschools.org

- Dec 1 – District Dollars for Scholars Meat Raffle – 7pm
- Dec 4 – Elementary School Half Day
- Dec 5 – PTO Meeting in the school Cafeteria (childcare provided) 6:30-8pm
- Dec 5-7 – Winter Wonderland Shop
- Dec 15 – Giving Tree Ceremony
- Dec 25-Jan 1 – No School
- Jan 2 - PTO Meeting in the school Cafeteria (childcare provided) 6:30-8pm
- Jan 10 – PTO Sponsored Elementary School Skating Party at Rainbow Rink 5pm
- Jan 15 – MLK Day, no school
- Jan 26 - Elementary School Half Day

We are always looking for more members and volunteers

If you would like more information on how to get involved, please stop into one of the meetings or reach out to us on our Facebook page Willow Ridge Elementary School PTO.

–Erin Murphy-Kubiak, PTO Member

2018 WILLOW RIDGE DIRECTORY COVER CONTEST

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE NO. _____

AGE: _____

RULES:

All Willow Ridge Civic Association members up to and including the age of 16 are eligible. All entries must have this form enclosed with the drawing.

DO NOT STAPLE....NO NAMES ON DRAWING PLEASE.

**PLEASE DO NOT WRITE ANYTHING on drawing.
(this includes the year or WRCADirectory.)**

Only drawings without writing will be accepted.

Drawing must be hand drawn – (not a computer image) and in color.

Drawing must be on paper the size of the directory (vertical 8.5” x horizontal 5”) to avoid distortion when producing actual cover.

NO NAMES ON DRAWING PLEASE

All drawings MUST contain at least one (1) willow tree to represent Willow Ridge.

JUDGING/WINNERS

Winning entries will be judged on originality, creativity and community spirit. When entries are received, the entry form and drawing will receive corresponding numbers for judging purposes only. There will be three winners (first place, second place and third place). These winners will be published in the April issue of the WITW.

A winner from those 3 winners will be chosen for the 2017 WRCA Community Directory. This winner will receive a \$25.00 Wal-Mart gift card and their drawing in full color on the directory cover for 2018. Second and Third place winners will receive a \$10.00 Wal-Mart gift card. All three winners will receive a complimentary directory with their name listed in the directory.

Judging will be done by people associated with our community.

SUBMISSION / DEADLINE

Entry forms and drawings can be dropped off in the box in front of 80 Sweetwood North Drive. Any questions, please call Jane Sieman at 870-3412 or email jsie44@yahoo.com
Deadline for submission is February 20, 2018.

HAVE FUN & GOOD LUCK!!!!



Willow Ridge neighborhood Christmas Tree Lighting

**Join your neighbors for this annual tradition,
the lighting of the Willow Ridge Christmas tree
and a round of Christmas carols.**

Saturday, December 2 at 4:30 p.m.

Corner of Willow Ridge & Sweetwood North

*Special thanks to our community partners for their donations of goods and services. A capella artist Alexandra Bastian, Amherst Baptist Church
Ellicott Creek Fire Department, Signature Sweets by Jamie,
Willow Ridge Civic Association, and DJ Erich.*