News for Willow Ridge Civic Association Members

January 2018

Wind in the Willows

Message from the President

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WRC

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Next WRCA Board Meeting Feb 13th at 7:30pm to 9pm at Ellicott Creek Volunteer Fire Company 45 S Ellicott Creek Rd, Amherst, NY 14228

Snowflake Dinner Dance Saturday, March 3, 2018

Easter Party Saturday, March 24, 2018

Please check out WRCA New Website WRCA.US

HAPPY NEW VEARII I hope everybody enjoyed their Holidays!

ast Board Meeting was excellent! Alissa Shields spoke and gave us an update to the WTF / Micro Cell Towers Town Codes. We as a community need to get more involved in this process by having the Town hear our voices!

s your president, I spoke during "public expression" to express our concerns at the January 2nd Town Board Meeting. Also speaking were Willow Ridge residents Bill and Patty Lisk. I urge all residents of not only Willow Ridge, but the whole Town to let the Town Board know you concerns by speaking at a meeting, or writing a letter. Just a reminder to everyone, Willow Ridge is pretty much ground zero for these micro cell towers and we need to show the Town we are following this, to make sure this is done correctly, not only Willow Ridge but for all of Amherst.

I would like to thank Councilmember Deborah Bucki and incoming Council-member Shawn Lavin for being in attendance at December's Board Meeting. It was great to have them there to listen to our concerns.

I would like to welcome Ann Nichols to the Willow Ridge Civic Association's board!

Thank you Lisa Collins and Tracy Conhiser-Uy. I was honored to sign the Recharter for Boy Scout Troop 173 and Cub Scout Pack 173. The Scouts in Willow Ridge deserve the special recognition and the leadership has done an outstanding job! I want to thank Jim and Dawn Cwierly for organizing WRCA Tree Lighting for the third year in a row! I also want to shout out to Barry Moir, Ray Fliss, and Chuck Malarkey, who decorated the tree!

Please read Dawn Cwierly's article about the Tree Lighting in this edition of Wind In The Willows.

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Wind in the Willows

Contact Us

President	
Erich Krueger	691-9952
	949-2561
Vice President	
Tom Amodeo	250-9928
Secretary	
Jane Sieman	870-3412
Treasurer	
Donna Mosteller	465-8436

or

Board of Directors

Andy Annesi	812-8851
Cassandra Schwab	982-3984
Marijean Nichols	691-4375
John Radens	691-7389
Ann Nichols	830-6359

Membership/Circulation Jane Sieman 870-3412

Wind In The Willows Marijean Nichols 691-4375

Advertising Sales - WITW Andy Annesi 812-8851

Directory Jane Sieman 87

870-3412

Visit us on the web at <u>WRCA.US</u> 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



Message from the President Cont'd from Page 1

February's WITW, the winners of The House Decorations will be announce...Only then will it be reveled who is Willow Ridge's Griswold!

It looks like we are in for a "Real Buffalo Winter," please try to keep your sidewalks clear and if you have a service clearing your drive ways please instruct them not to block the sidewalks with snow. If there are residents unable to clear their sidewalks please let us know and we will see what options there are to getting it done

Please check out our New Website! WRCA.US Please remember to renew your WRCA Membership and spread the word to new neighbors about The Willow Ridge Civic Association. - H. Erich Krueger

Neighborhood News Welcome to Willow Ridge

We would like to welcome Tom and Kate Destino to the neighborhood. Tom & Kate moved to 332 Denrose Drive from Eggertsville with their children Ava and Tom Jr. and their dog Hugo. Kate is a stay at home mom and Tom is an IT Professional.

We would also like to welcome Steve and Jean Gabrielli at 316 Denrose Dr. Steve and Jean moved from Lewiston. Steve is a machinist and they both love spending the weekends with their granddaughter.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT We value your community participation that is key to our community Willow Ridge Civic Association. We enjoy bringing people together, including neighbors, to capture the values and interests of our community.

JOIN TODAY

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



Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

WRCA Minutes

WRCA MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER12, 2017

The November WRCA meeting was called to order at 7:46 pm by President Erich Krueger.

In attendance were President Erich Krueger, Treasurer Donna Mosteller, Secretary Jane Sieman, and Board Members Cassandra Schwab, Andy Annesi, John Radens and Marijean Nichols. Excused was Vice President Tom Amodeo. Also in attendance was Jim & Jane Steel, Alissa Shields, Bill & Patty Lisk, Ann Nichols, Lisa Collins, Tracy Conhiser-Uy, Sandy Radens, Deborah Bruch Bucki, Amherst Councilmember, Shawn Lavin. Amherst and Counicilmember elect.

Lisa Collins and Tracy Conhiser-Uy presented the charters to WRCA President Erich Krueger for signature for Boy Scout Troop 173 and Cub Scout Pack 173 respectively.

Alissa Shields presented an update on the Cell Tower Moratorium and the Codes. Moratorium to expire soon. Updated us on ordinances and codes. We are facing possible roadblock and more community involvement is needed. Alissa is developing amendment to code. Ordinances include administrative approval for wireless. Amherst Supervisor Elect Brian Kulpa supports no administrative approval. Residents can check WRCA.US webiste for information from Alissa on Microcell info. Residents are encouraged to attend and speak at the January Town Board meeting on Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 7:00 pm. Resident Jim Steel expressed

concern about home values.

Deborah Bruch Bucki, Amherst Councilmember and Shawn Lavin, Amherst Councilmember elect were introduced.

Deborah Bruch Bucki thanked the WRCA Board for the invite and will look into cell tower info. Discussed the many committees in Amherst. Amherst currently has 32 committees and they are open for residents to get involved on any of them.

Shawn Lavin thanked WRCA Board for the invite and the residents for their votes. Mr. Lavin offered his support to Willow Ridge and is looking forward to help building area communities.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Motion was made to approve the November 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 November was \$0.00. Expenses for the month of November was \$1732.18. The balance for the end of November was \$3,227.99. A deposit of \$3,638.00 was made in early memberships December for received in November. A motion made to accept treasurer's report by Marijean Nichols and seconded by John Radens.

DISCUSSION

Membership Drive- Jane Sieman reported. We have received close to 300 memberships to date. Discussed postcard reminders to residents that haven't responded. Will get cost and submit to the board. Updates will also be given to block reps to follow up on those who haven't responded in their area by January 15, 2018. Ewind reminder will also be sent out.

Reminder that invoices that are mailed into the board or treasurer must be brought to the monthy meeting and a check will be issued same night and mailed the following day.

Approval for No Solicitors window sticker to be distributed with the 2018 Willow Ridge Directory to all WRCA members. A motion made to accept by Marijean Nichols and seconded by Donna Mosteller. All in favor.

Donna Mosteller has an accountant contact that will provide assistance with taxes and put us on the path to be Not for Profit.

New Website - President Erich Krueger has designed and created WRCA's website. The new website address is now WRCA.US.

We would like to welcome new board member Ann Nichols. Ann will be filling the vacancy left by Connie Holovics.

WRCA is in need of 1 more board member. 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.

WRCA would like to thank Jim and Dawn Cwierley for running the Tree Lighting Festivities on Willow Ridge and Sweetwood North. WRCA also would like to thank Barry Moir, Chuck Mularkey and Ray Fliss for the lights on the tree, Sweets by Jamie for donating

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Sidewalk Snow Clearing Contractor List

For Residents

he Town of Amherst currently provides a Sidewalk Snow Relief Program which assists residents who are located in two special districts that have exceptional hardships in clearing their sidewalks during winter months by providing snow relief services. This helps ensure that sidewalks are clear and safe for use by pedestrians in accordance with Town Code 83-9-5. The Town's Sidewalk Snow Relief Committee continues to receive requests from residents and neighborhoods for sidewalk snow clearing services, but it is not possible for the Town to include all requests in its current program.

Therefore, the Town has created a list of sidewalk snow clearing contractors who are willing and able to contract with property owners to clear snow on private sidewalks during winter months. The list can be accessed by using the link below. This list is continuously updated as contractor requests are received.

The Town does not recommend contractors. The list of contractors is simply made available to residents who may then contact individual companies to contract for sidewalk snow clearing services. The Town is not involved and does not have any responsibility beyond forming, maintaining, and making the list available to residents. Any agreements or contracts regarding pricing, hours, etc. would be between the resident and the contractor, and would not involve the Town. It is recommended that residents get more than one quote from various contractors and inquire about contractors having up-to-date insurance.

~Please view the Sidewalk Snow Clearing Contractor List within this newsletter ~

WRCA MINUTES Cont'd from page 3

cookies, Starbucks for donating coffee, Trader Joe's for their donation of popcorn and Amherst Baptist Church and Ellicott Fire Company for their involvement. Over 50 people attended.

Willow Ridge neighborhood lighting contest - Judges will be scouting the neighborhood the weekend of December 16, 2017. Ten prizes will be awarded to WRCA members.

Snowflake Dinner Dance - Saturday, March 3, 2018. Cost of \$70.00 per couple. Dinner stations and open bar. Carol Zaffram is contact for this event. More details to follow in this issue.

There being no further business at hand, the meeting came to a close at 9:35 p.m. Motion was made by Marijean Nichols to adjourn and seconded by Andy Annesi. Next Willow Ridge Civic Assoc. meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 9th at 7:30 p.m. in Ellicott Creek Fire Hall.

Respectfully submitted, Jane Sieman - WRCA Secretary

NEXT WRCA MEETING

February 13th at 7:30 PM at: Ellicott Creek Volunteer Fire Company 45 S Ellicott Creek Rd, Amherst, NY 14228 Main Topic: To be Announced

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Sidewalk Snow Clearing Contractor List

Kramer the Snowman Darrell Kramer 716-346-5862 Snowman.sr.15@gmail.com

Lupke Landscaping Chuck Lupke 716-832-4157 rlkcid@yahoo.com

Milherst Construction, Inc. James Collins, Jr. 716-688-9098 jimjr@milherst.com

Razors Edge Lawn Cutting and Snowplowing Anthony Dagostino 716-812-3034 razorsedgelawnsnow@gmail.com

Reinhart Enterprises Landscaping and Lawn Care, LLC Nick Reinhart 716-207-2352 nick@reinhartlandscaping.com *24 hour notice will be required. Main service area includes Amherst and Williamsville (14221/14226 zip codes).

Spectrum Landscape Services, LLC Paul Reamsnyder 716-580-3431 paul@spectrumservice.net For any complaints about individual contractors on this list, please call Sarah Griebner at the Town of Amherst Engineering Department 716-631-7154

WRCA Easter Party!

The Easter Bunny is coming to Willow Ridge! Willow Ridge Civic Association & Amherst Baptist Church will be hosting our Annual Easter Party on Saturday March 24th at 10am at Willowridge Elementary!

> To volunteer for this event please contact Cassandra Schwab at (716) 982-3984



TCB Lawn & Snow Shevonne Brown 716-400-8305 tcblawncare@yahoo.com *Servicing the Amherst/Snyder area near Main Street.

Willow Ridge Landscaping, Inc. Tony Cangialosi 716-531-3442 tonyswillowridge@yahoo.com *24 hour notice will be required. We can provide seasonal quotes or per diem.

WNY Seasonal Services Michael Holmberg 716-908-8985 wnyseasonalservices@gmail.com *Servicing Amherst near Transit Road & Clarence.

Willow Ridge neighbors kick off holiday season with tree lighting

he Willow Ridge neighborhood kicked off the holiday season with a Christmas tree-lighting ceremony on Saturday, December 2.

The tree, located at the corner of Willow Road and Sweetwood North, was lit by members of the Ellicott Creek Fire Department this year.

"It's a wonderful night for neighbors to join together and celebrate Christmas and the holidays," said Dawn M. Cwierley, one of the organizers. "As our neighborhood continues to grow, it's important that we continue to maintain that spirit of community, and the way we do that is by instilling traditions like this."

This year the event featured A cappella artist Alexandra Bastian from the Dexter Terrace community who sang Silent Night. The Amherst Baptist Church also led the attendees in a round of caroling.

Events like this come together because of the collaboration of organizations and individuals in the community, starting with Barry Moir, Ray Fliss, and Chuck Malarkey, who decorate the tree each year.

This year, we also extend a special thanks to Starbucks on Niagara Falls Boulevard, Trader Joe's, and Signature Sweets by Jamie for their donation of treats. Submitted by Dawn Cwierley

Protect your back while shoveling snow this winter-

Get a curved handle. Snow shovels with curved handles mean that you don't have to bend as much while shoveling, taking some of the strain off of your back. Also be sure you are always bending at the knees, rather than leaning over.

Plastic is best. The lighter the shovel the better, because there's less weight to lift. A strong, plastic shovel will be your best bet because it's both durable and light.

Consider a smaller blade, and use a wider grasp. While a smaller blade may not hold as much snow, it will prevent you from taking on too much weight. Make sure that your hands are at least a foot apart on the shovel. This increases your leverage and reduces the train on your back.

Push, don't lift. Try to push the snow out of the way as opposed to lifting and carrying, and collect small scoops rather than large ones. This can reduce the strain on your back.

Beware of wet and heavy snow

PLACE DJ Eric DUR AN I Contact www.beatboxsound.com **DISC JOCKEY FOR Advertising Sales** WEDDINGS, PARTIES, BARS & NIGHTCLUBS ALL OCCASIONS **Andy Annesi** DJ ERICH KRUEGER 812 - 8851 PH 716-949-2561 E-Mail: dj_erich@beatboxsound.com www.facebook.com/djekrueger for information

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REVISED COPY- Please note new place below *Please join us for a benefit event honoring*

Karen Richardson Wife, Mother, Daughter, Neighbor, Friend, and Teacher



Tuesday, January 16, 2018

All funds raised will go toward medical expenses

FOOD, DRINKS, MUSIC, 50/50 RAFFLE and MORE!

PLACE: Noco Pavilion, 450 Ensminger Road Tonawanda, NY 14150 TIME: 6:00PM-9:00PM

Music provided by Sam Tambe Band For more information contact: Fawn Jones 716-380-1043

> Recommended (minimum) donation \$50/person Send check (payable) to Gaylynn Kucskar 160 N. Brier Road, Amherst, NY 14228 For payment questions: 716-691-0345

If unable to attend, contributions are also welcome! When you respond your name will be on the guest list. No ticket will be sent. Seating is limited, so please respond early. Wind in the Willows

Community News

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

olunteering 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:

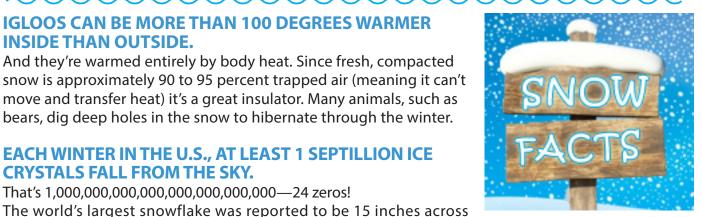
64-165 Dalewood Dr. **** Denrose Dr. **** 775- 933 Edgewater Dr. **** Elderwood Ct. **** 74 - 119 Grasspointe **** Jonathan Pl. **** 109 - 487 Kaymar Dr. **** 205 - 248 North Brier Rd.**** Peppertree Dr. ***** Red Maple Ct.**** 6 - 50 Rockdale Dr. **** 13 - 138 Rockdale Dr. **** Roundwood Ct.**** S.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

IGLOOS CAN BE MORE THAN 100 DEGREES WARMER INSIDE THAN OUTSIDE.

And they're warmed entirely by body heat. Since fresh, compacted snow is approximately 90 to 95 percent trapped air (meaning it can't move and transfer heat) it's a great insulator. Many animals, such as bears, dig deep holes in the snow to hibernate through the winter.

EACH WINTER IN THE U.S., AT LEAST 1 SEPTILLION ICE **CRYSTALS FALL FROM THE SKY.**

That's 1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000—24 zeros!



and 8 inches thick. The Guinness Book of World Records states that this giant snowflake was found at Fort Keogh, Montana on January 28, 1887.

All snowflakes have 6 sides. The reasoning behind this gets techy, but it's cool:

"The oxygen atom has a particularly strong attraction to the electron clouds of the two hydrogen atoms and pulls them closer. This leaves the two hydrogen ends more positively charged, and the center of the "V" more negatively charged. When other water molecules "brush up" against this growing snowflake, strong forces between the negatively charged and positively charged parts of different particles cause them to join together in a very specific three-dimensional pattern with a sixsided symmetry. Each water molecule that joins the snowflake reflects this pattern until eventually we can see its macroscopic six-sided shape." - Learner.org



It's that time to start thinking about warming up with some friends and neighbors. This year will be a little different, well drinks, bottle beer and great food, all for just \$70/couple. It will not be a sit down dinner or a buffet, but there will be lots of food, drinks and dancing. Call or text Carol to learn more and get your tickets 716-913-4980.

LOCATION: Classics Five Banquet and Conference Center 2425 Niagara Falls Blvd, Amherst, New York 14228

> Music by DJ Erich (Rock & Roll, Top 40, Retro 70s, 80's, 90's, 2000's and Country Hits!)

> Call or text Carol for details (716)913-4980

Facebook Events: https://www.facebook.com/ events/2064195623816576/

Willow Ridge PTO News and Events

Giving Tree:

Each year, Willow Ridge Elementary tries to show the students the giving aspect of the season, as opposed to just the receiving. They also want to bring attention to the needs of the local community. The annual Giving Tree is an opportunity for the kids to bring in hats, gloves, scarves and canned goods for those in need. This year's event brought in 345 winter clothing items and 726 food items- an amazing donation will be used at the Amherst Warm Clothing Project and the Amherst Food Bank.

Cookie Dough:

Thank you to all who participated in one of our best fund-raisers of the year. The exact numbers aren't in just yet, but from the orders, it looks like it was another successful year. Thank you to Dawn Rydzynski for heading this team and making it another success.

Winter Wonderland:

Each year the PTO buys hundreds of small items and turns one of the classrooms into a Winter Wonderland for the kids to come in and shop for their families and friends. This week-long event lets the kids come and buys presents anywhere from \$1-\$5 and volunteers wrap it for them. The PTO Committee really does a great job getting diverse items for all ages, various themes, etc – and even remembers to have options available for the family pets! Great job to Liz Betchel and Dawn Rydzynski for heading this project up and of course all of the volunteers that wrapped and wrapped!

On-Going School Programs:

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.



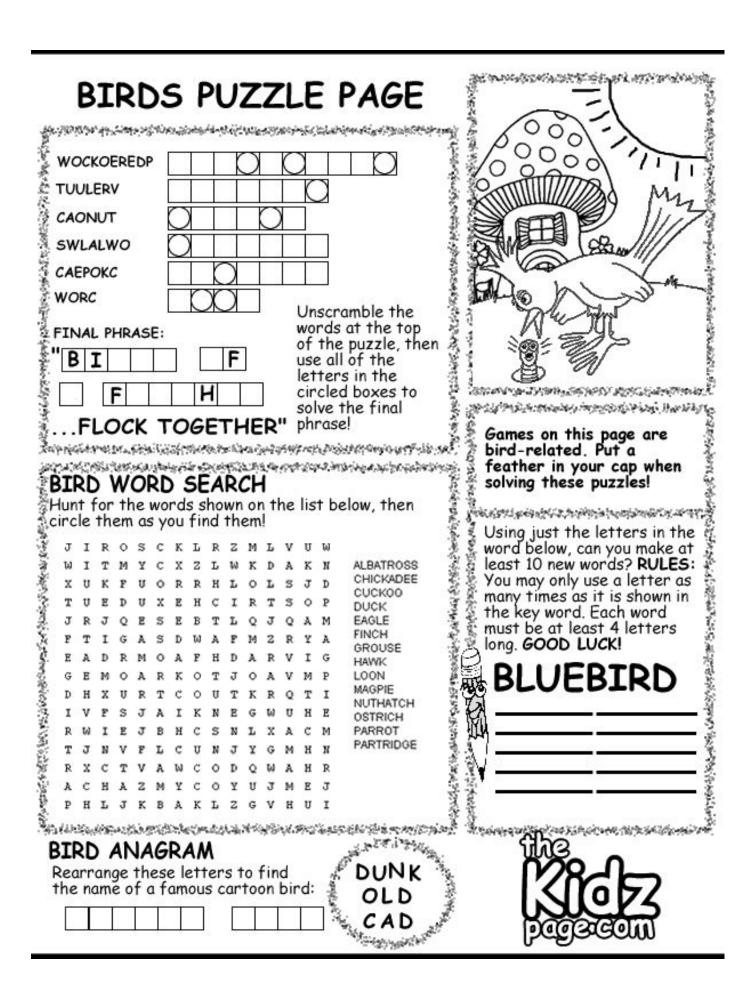
Upcoming Events For more information visit the <u>sweethomeschools.org</u>

- Jan 2 School Resumes
- Jan 2 PTO Meeting in the school Cafeteria (childcare provided) 6:30-8pm
- Jan 10 PTO Skating Party
- Jan 15 MLK Day (no school)
- Jan 16 Candy Sale Kickoff (runs Jan 16 Feb 7)
- Jan 21 District Music Festival
- Jan 25 Grade 2 and 3 Chorus Concert and Art Show
- Jan 26 Half Day (Dismissal at 11:15)
- Feb 6 PTO Meeting in the school Cafeteria (childcare provided) 6:30-8pm
- Feb 9 February Frolics 6:00
- Feb 19 23 Winter Recess

More Information on any of these events is also listed on the district calendar at www.sweethomeschools.org

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.



Wind in the Willows	WILLOW		
Name of Company			
Point Of Contact & Phone No.			
Address			
Email Address			
We would like to purchase t	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. COUPON TEXT:

WILLOW RIDGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION 2018 Membership Invoice -DUES-Last chance to join February issue will not go to those who did not rejoin

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:		
A	lress used for E-Wind and Newsletter only. OT 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 assi Dinner Dance, National N	ist with WRCA activities such as Junior Recreation, Snowflake ight Out, etc		

- COMMENTS -