

January 2021



Wind in the Willows

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Willow Ridge Civic Association meeting will be held on ZOOM

January 14th 7 PM
February 11 7 PM
March 11 7 PM

Link for these meetings will be emailed and Posted on our Facebook Page.

Message from the President

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Good riddance to 2020!

I think the only positive is the Buffalo Bills and brand new babies to some of our WRCA Members!

Exciting news to start off 2021, we have things in motion for our Willow Ridge Park and hope to have a Pavilion in place by late Spring! At the last WRCA Monthly Meeting we had State Legislator Jeanne Vinal who secured \$15,000 for our park. The Town of Amherst Recreation Director Mary-Diana Pouli, spoke also about types of park pavilion and other items on our “wish list”. The Town’s Park Dept will be doing a walk through in the next few weeks and hopefully for February’s WITW we will have an update.

Due to the Pandemic many of our local restaurant businesses have suffered which some are owned by WRCA Members and that employ many from the Willow Ridge neighborhood, so we are giving these local businesses free advertising space in the WITW. Please support local businesses!

Don’t forget to renew your Willow Ridge Civic Association Membership!

Stay Safe and Stay Healthy!

President

H. Erich Krueger

Contact Us

President

Erich Krueger 691-9952 or 949-2561

Vice President

Cassandra Schwab 982-3984

Secretary

Jane Sieman 870-3412

Treasurer

Marijean Nichols 691-4375

Board of Directors

Andy Annesi 812-8851

Cassandra Schwab 982-3984

Marijean Nichols 691-4375

John Radens 868-3699

Sharon Grogan 510-7489

Kori Cahill 347-640-9999

Kristin "Rose" Cangialosi 531-0840

Kristin Puff 870-9431

Membership/Circulation

Jane Sieman 870-3412

Wind In The Willows

Kristin Puff 870-9431

Advertising Sales - WITW

Andy Annesi 812-8851

Directory

Jane Sieman 870-3412

Children Events

Cassandra Schwab
children.events@wrca.us

Block Rep Coordinator.

Kori Cahill blockreps@wrca.us

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 drop off articles/news/photos at Kristin Puff 55 Roundwood Court or email to kristinpuff3@gmail.

Thank you Pampered Chef consultant Jennifer Poydock!

Thank you Pampered Chef consultant Jennifer Poydock! As a way to thank local healthcare heroes, she coordinated donations from friends and family to be able to gift 60 ceramic egg cookers to intensive care associates and respiratory therapists at Kenmore Mercy Hospital. Thank you Jennifer for "pampering" our dedicated staff. #HeartsForWNYHeroes.

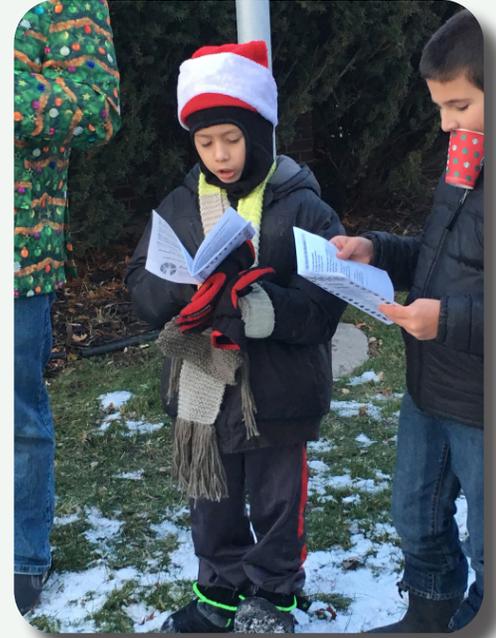


Community News

Dear Willow Ridge Neighbors,

I would like to thank the committee/individuals who put the lights on the Willow Ridge Community Tree this year. The lights on the tree are beautiful and puts the jolly with my holly to make a Holly Jolly time for us all. Due to Covid-19 this year, we couldn't have our Annual Tree Lighting and Caroling, so I decided to share some of the photos from the 2019 Tree Lighting/Caroling. A highlight from that night was when a Pastor from the Amherst Baptist Church and one of our Volunteer Fire Fighters sang a duet, which was enjoyed by all!

Happy Holidays,
Helen Gibson



Willow Ridge
Community Tree



Community News



The Christmas Eve Santa Run

The kids really enjoyed it. Thanks so much for the great effort

~ Jane and Jerry Rosenfeld

Big Thank You goes out to Cassandra Schwab for creating the Goodie Bags for the Children!!

~ Erich



Community News

The Christmas Eve Santa Run



Community News

A big THANK YOU to Ellicott Creek Volunteer Fire Company

I have lived in Willow Ridge 20 years next month and I never changed my smoke alarms because they were hardwired. Being a single woman when I purchased the home, I thought it was wired into the electrical system so I didn't need to do anything with them. However, being awoken at 3:00 a.m. to alarms going off in many rooms was a little alarming (no pun intended). My husband and I searched around for smoke/fire to deafening alarms to no avail.

When the police and fire department arrived, we were instructed on how to dismantle them and told to change the wired alarms every 10 years. Oops, we were a little overdue by 10 years.

I doubt they could tell our embarrassment, but we hope they could see our gratitude!
I share this not only to publicly thank our Fire Department who willingly showed up in the middle of the night, but to inform others who thought the same as I did.

Be safe! With gratitude, Helen Gibson

100 % Volunteer and Dedicated to serving the residents of the Town of Amherst and The Town of Tonawanda since 1945.

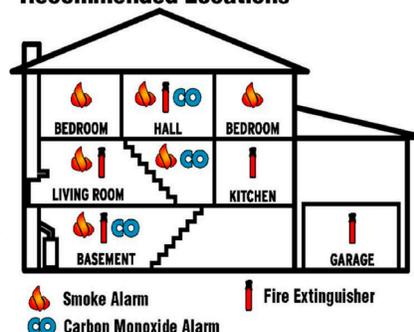


Ellicott Creek Volunteer Fire Company Awards

Presidents Award: Nick Frase Chiefs Award: Russ Stith Officer of the Year Award: Alicia May Out Going Captain : Bob Zacher Out Going Corresponding Secretary: Pete Calandra	Points Awards: 1st - Matt Hallgren - 68.86 2nd - Rich Eggleston - 67.86 3rd - Tom Drabinski - 66.39 4th - Dan DeMeester Jr - 60.16 5th - Ed Reichard - 48.46	Years of Service: Paul Dusel - 40 years Dan Frase - 40 years Brandon Vizzi - 15 Years Roger Brennan - 10 Years Megan Martin - 10 Years Pat Rosner - 10 Years
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Lets not forget about our out going Chief: Joe Osika!

Recommended Locations



Roughly two-thirds of home fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms. **Working smoke alarms and CO2 detectors can save your life.**



Please make sure the hydrant in front of your house is clear.

Jennifer Laible & Make-A-Wish of WNY

Kudos to Jennifer Laible. This past Christmas, she made 47 ornaments and thanks to the generosity of family and friends, she was able to donate \$318 to Make-A-Wish of WNY, an organization which provides hope to children with critical illnesses by creating life changing wishes.

~Dawn Cwierley~



WRCA 2021 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The 2021 Membership Drive will again provide two methods for becoming a member of WRCA or for renewing your membership - an invoice system or on-line via PayPal.

This issue of the Wind-in-the-Willows contains your 2021 Membership Invoice along with an addressed return envelope.

The on-line alternative will be via PayPal, a secure method to make your payment via your computer. There will be a link via the WRCA website.

Membership dues are \$20.00 and are due by December 31, 2020.

Your timely membership payment ensures that you will receive the Wind-in-the-Willows, Emailed Updates and that the 2021 WRCA Directory will be delivered to your house. April 2021 is our Target Date, but there may be delays due to Covid.

WRCA Zoom Meeting Dates

January 14th 7 PM

February 11 7 PM

March 11 7 PM

Link for these meetings will be emailed and

Posted on our Facebook Page.

~ Erich ~

WILLOW RIDGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

2021 Membership Invoice

-DUES-

DUES FOR 2021 ARE \$20.00. Please renew/join by December 31, 2020.

PAYMENT METHODS:

-- Mail your check & form below payable to: WILLOW RIDGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 86
Amherst, NY 14226

-- Via PayPal at wrca.us ***IF PAYING VIA PAYPAL - PLEASE FILL OUT FORM THAT IS PROVIDED VIA PAY PAL FOR DIRECTORY INFORMATION***

**PLEASE FILL OUT FORM BELOW WITH ALL CURRENT INFORMATION
FOR THE 2021 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) _____

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.

- USE REVERSE SIDE FOR COMMENTS-

WRCA MINUTES FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2020

The December WRCA meeting via Zoom was called to order at 7:06pm by President, Erich Krueger.

In attendance were President – Erich Krueger, Vice President – Cassandra Schwab, Treasurer – Marijean Nichols, Secretary – Jane Sieman and Board Members John Radens, Kori Cahill, and Kristin Cangialosi. Excused were Kristin Puff, Andy Annesi and Sharon Grogan. Also, in attendance were Stephen Steinberg, Gary Aquilina, Jim Cwierley, Erie County Legislature Jeanne Vinal, and Town of Amherst Executive Director of Youth Recreation Mary-Diana Pouli. If I missed anyone, because of the Zoom format, I apologize.

Erie County Jeanne Vinal gave us the great news that she has added to the Erie County budget a direct line to Willow Ridge Civic Association in the amount of \$15,000.00 for community betterment. One of the reasons Jeanne fought for Willow Ridge to receive this funding is because Willow Ridge Civic Association is a great community organization and a great family neighborhood. Jeanne Vinal also reached out to Amherst Town Supervisor Brian Kulpa and he agreed that Willow Ridge was a great recipient.

WRCA started a Park Committee to explore ways to

make our park more in line with other parks in our area and to make it a center for activities in Willow Ridge. Jim Cwierley is the chairperson for this committee, and he has reached out to the Town's Parks Department with our "Wish List". If everything works out, we could have a new pavilion with the possibility of electric, picnic tables, landscaping/plant beautification, a bike path to connect Hubbardston Pl and Jonathan Pl area of Willow Ridge to the park. The funding of \$15,000.00 would be put towards this project. There is a January meeting w/engineers to go over these ideas and a possible walk thru weather pending.

Mary Diana Pouli, Executive Director of Youth Recreation for the Town of Amherst discussed park planning and pavilions in the town. The goal would be by July 2021.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Motion was made to approve the November 2020 minutes as published in the December issue by Marijean Nichols and seconded by Kori Cahill.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's report from July 2020 to present was presented and reviewed. July's beginning balance was \$11,009.12 – ending balance was \$10,176.47. August and September there were no transactions and the balance remained at \$10,176.47. October 2020 - income was \$40.00 and expenses were

\$0.00 with an ending balance of \$10,216.47. November 2020 – income was \$0.00 and expenses were 82.03 with an ending balance of \$10,134.44. December 2020 to present day (12/10/2020) – income was \$4,914.34 and expenses were \$2,294.79 with an ending balance of \$12,753.99. Motion to approve by Kristin Cangialosi and seconded by John Radens. All in favor.

DISCUSSION

(New and Old Business)

Jim Cwierley reported for Cub Scout Pack 173. Unfortunately, due to Covid 19 guidelines and restrictions, there will be no Holiday Card Delivery or Cans for Cubs pickup this season.

Willow Ridge Civic Association Nominations/Elections – No nominations as of today's date. Membership Drive – Jane Sieman reported. As of today's date we have over 270 members. All monies received to date have been deposited.

Neighborhood Watch – Communications with Amherst Police Department, WRCA President Erich Krueger, and Dawn Cwierley are still ongoing as there is a renewed interest to bring this back. Further discussion at WRCA's January meeting.

Annual Ellicott Creek Volunteer Fire Company Santa Run will be on 12/19 starting at 4:00. Details are still being worked out to comply with Covid 19 guidelines. Ellicott Creek

Continued on the next page

Minutes continued

Volunteer Fire Company will distribute flyers to all Willow Ridge residents with details. Willow Ridge Holiday House Decorating Contest will take place the weekend of December 18th. Christmas Children's Event – Santa Clause will be in our neighborhood on the morning of December 24th starting at 10:00 am distributing goodie bags. Details will be on our member's facebook page and in an email to our members.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business at hand, the meeting ended at 8:30 pm. Motion was made by Marijean Nichols to adjourn and seconded by John Radens. The next Willow Ridge Civic Association meeting will be held on Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted, Jane Sieman – WRCA Secretary



BOY SCOUT, CUB SCOUT and GIRL SCOUT NEWS

Girl Scout cookies are on sale right now reach out to your local Girl Scout



Girl Scout cookies sales are open from now until the first week in February. All cookies are \$5 a box and they can either have no contact delivery from their local Girl Scout or pay for shipping.

Cub Scouts and Boy Scout Bottle Collection

As posted last month, Due to Covid there were no collections but if you want your cans and bottles deposit refunds to go to the Scouts, take them to this location:
660 N French Rd, Buffalo, NY 14228.



Just tell them they are for Cub Scout Pack 173.

WILLOW RIDGE COMMUNITY DIRECTORY FOR THE YEAR 2021

It is time to begin putting the Willow Ridge Community Directory together again and you are invited to place an advertisement in the 2021 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 February 15th 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.

Some ideas to add to our already growing list of advertisers are electricians, heating/air conditioning companies, dental, gardening, plumbing, personal care such as barber shops, hair salons and nail care.

If anyone is interested in placing an ad in our 2021 Willow Ridge Directory, please complete the following request and mail to me at WRCA, Jane Sieman, P.O. Box 86, Amherst, NY 14226.

I will be accepting ads until March 15th, 2021.

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



***ADVERTISING REQUEST FOR
WILLOW RIDGE COMMUNITY DIRECTORY
YEAR 2021***

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 February 15, 2021 **- 10%** _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

(Deadline March 15, 2021. Money and Ad due by March 15, 2021)

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

Coupon (write text below)

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

Community News

Classifieds

Willow Ridge senior couple seeks capable and dependable person for house cleaning once per month. Hours, day and pay negotiable Phone 691-7206.

Does anyone need a double (full size) bed? It is dark pine, cannonball style, headboard and footboard. Too good and sturdy to throw away.
Please call 868-2865 Sandy, or 868-3699 John.

Andersen aluminum screens available. all are in good working order with no holes or runs/tears, these are a good replacement option for broken screens for many Willow Ridge homes

Screen quantity & sizes (outer frame dimensions):

two - 48 5/8" x 21 1/4" - three - 43 3/4" x 25 1/8" - five - 36 1/2" x 21 1/4"
\$10 each or whole lot for \$50.

Also, we have Andersen window grids in the diamond pattern (white), all are in good shape.

grid quantity & sizes (outer frame dimensions):

four - 20 3/16" x 36" - five - 20 3/16" x 60 5/16" - \$5 each or \$40 for all 9 pieces

Call/text 716-465-1672

Willow Ridge Elementary PTO Update

Upcoming Events (listed below)

January 4th: School Resumes

January 6th: Board of Education Meeting @ 6:30 PM*

January 7th: PTO Meeting @ 6:30 PM via Zoom (please email the PTO for a link)

January 7th: COVID-19 Vaccine Q&A 6:00-7:30 PM

(please email the PTO for a link)

January 12th: Board of Education Study Session @ 6:30 PM

January 18th: No School

January 19th: Board of Education Voting Session @ 6:30 PM

February 2nd: BOE Study Session 6:30-8

February 4th: PTO Meeting @ 6:30 PM via Zoom (please email the PTO for a link)

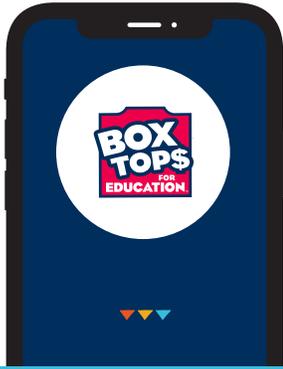
February 9th: Board of Education Voting Session @ 6:30 PM

February 15-19th: Winter Recess

February 26th: Winter Virtual Dance (more info to follow)

February TBD - Start to the Candy sale

Sincerely, Erin Murphy-Kubiak



EARN CASH FOR OUR SCHOOL

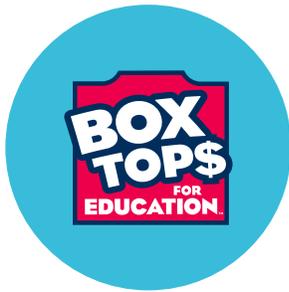
NO MORE CLIPPING. ALL YOU NEED IS YOUR SMARTPHONE.

The NEW and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school's earnings online.

LOOK FOR THE NEW LABEL:

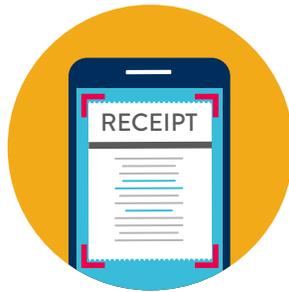


HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:



BUY BOX TOPS PRODUCTS

You can find Box Tops on hundreds of products throughout the store.



SCAN YOUR RECEIPT

Use the app to snap a photo of your receipt within 14 days of purchase.



EARN CASH FOR OUR SCHOOL

Box Tops earnings are identified and automatically updated at BTFE.com.

You do not need to clip or send Box Tops labels to school.



BOX TOPS CLIPS ON PACKAGES

Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store as packages transition to the new Box Tops labels. **You can still clip these and send them to school.** Please make sure each clip has a valid expiration date.



BUY
BOX TOPS PRODUCTS



CUT
OUT THE BOX TOP FROM EACH PACKAGE



SEND
YOUR BOX TOPS TO SCHOOL

SEE PRODUCTS & LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BOX TOPS APP AT BTFE.COM

THE ALL-NEW BOX TOPS IS HERE! DOWNLOAD THE APP:



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@ The Dome / Home Of Sportzone

FRIENDS GATHER HERE

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RESTAURANT - BAR - BANQUET FACILITY - CATERING
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Andy Annesi
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www.beatboxsound.com

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DJ ERICH KRUEGER

PH 716-949-2561

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

Nobody Sells Willow Ridge Homes Better Than Joe!!!

If you need to sell, maximize your gain by getting advice from someone who has an active interest in our neighborhood's home values, 26 years experience, and hundreds of satisfied customers...
Call your neighbor at 390 Willow Ridge Dr.

Joseph Battaglia

Associate Real Estate Broker

c: 863-4586

Free email service for buyers: JoeHasHomes4u@gmail.com

kw
KELLERWILLIAMS.
R E A L T Y BUFFALO NORTHTOWNS



Your Local Expert

WRCA needs Block Reps!!

Block Reps are an essential part of the Willow Ridge Civic Association! They serve as an intermediary between residents and the Civic Association Board, help with directory distribution on an annual basis, and reach out to new residents to inform them about the civic association.

Block Reps are needed in the following areas: (large blocks will be divided)

Edgewater drive (775-993)
Elderwood Court (ALL)
Grasspointe Drive (74-119)
Jonathan Place (ALL)
Kaymar Drive (109-487)
North Brier Road (205-248)
Red Maple Court (ALL)
Rockdale Court (ALL)

Rockdale Drive (6-50; 113-193)
Roundwood Court (ALL)
S. Ellicott Creek Rd. (ALL)
Willow Lane Court (ALL)
Willow Lane (ALL)
Willow Green Drive (113-481)
Willow Ridge Drive (130-218; 282-316)

Anyone interested in becoming a Block Rep can contact Kori Cahill @ blockreps@wrca.us