

May 2019



Wind in the Willows

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Next WRCA Board Meeting
Tuesday MAY 14th at 7:30pm
to 9pm at Ellicott Creek
Volunteer Fire Company 45
S Ellicott Creek Rd, Amherst,
NY 14228

Special Guests:
Buffalo State Students
with thier Professor and
Town of Amherst Officials
on presenting a final
Willow Ridge project.

Message from the President

SPRING CLEAN UP IN WILLOW RIDGE

I want thank Jeff Carlino for trying to do another Spring Clean Up in Willow Ridge. Unfortunately the weather did not cooperate with his efforts.

I can tell you first hand how badly this type of clean up is needed. I went out myself on the Sunday they were planning to do clean up, went down Willow Ridge Dr and up to the forest edge on Chestnut Ridge, collected 2 full bags of trash and one car bumper. I asked Joe Frese to reach out to the property owners for the wooded area by the parking lot on the corner of Joe McCarthy Drive and Willow Ridge Drive to help us keep that clean. Joe did report back to me that he contacted Benchmark.

The town has placed a garbage tote in the parking lot on the corner of Joe McCarthy Drive and Willow Ridge Drive, and good news, it is being used!

Let me take a moment to thank the Boy Scout Troop 173 for delivering the WRCA Directories!!!

Great Job!!

Scout Master Gerry and his wife Jennifer Poydock did a wonderful job getting this accomplished!

To Cassandra Schwab and all the Volunteers who helped out for this year's Children's Easter Party, you all did an AWESOME JOB!! We had over 90 children enjoy this event!!! Look for the pictures from the party in this WITW edition!

With warmer weather approaching there will be more residents walking, jogging and cycling and children will be outside playing and walking to school, so I am asking drivers to please watch your speed through our neighborhood, come to a full

Contact Us

President

Erich Krueger 691-9952 or 949-2561

Vice President

Kristin Puff 870-9431

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 868-3699

Ann Nichols 830-6359

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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

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 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



stop at Stop Signs and Don't Text and Drive!
Amherst Police will be stepping up watching for speeders and Stop sign runners.

Reminder that with warmer weather approaching, to keep your vehicles locked at night. I have had reports of possible people snooping around houses and property, if you see something, say something.

Like dandelions are a sure thing in Spring, so are Solicitors (Sales & Religious) Town Code 148-6: No peddling, soliciting or transient business activities, whether or not exempt from the permit requirements of this chapter, shall be conducted before 9:00 a.m. or after 8:00 p.m. If they ignore the time allotted for them or ignore "No Soliciting" signage or do not have a Sales Permit (Religious do not require a permit) Do Not Hesitate to call the Amherst Police.

Amherst Police
(716) 689-1311 Emergency 911

Before I close out my President's message I want to address a matter regarding WRCA Funds towards Spring Clean Up. There was a mistake made regarding funds which ended up with some negative feedback. Being President I take full responsibility for the mistake and will with the help of the Board address this so we do not run into this type of bind again.

Erich Krueger

WRCA MEETING NOTICE!

Tuesday MAY 14th at 7:30 PM

Where: Ellicott Creek Volunteer Fire Company



The April 9, 2019 WRCA meeting was called to order at 7:38 pm by President Erich Krueger.

In attendance were President Erich Krueger, Vice President Kristin Puff, Secretary Jane Sieman and Board Members John Radens, Marijean Nichols, Ann Nichols, Andy Annesi, and Cassandra Schwab. Excused was Treasurer, Donna Mosteller. Also in attendance were Town of Amherst Highway Superintendent, Patrick Lucey, Bob Lannen, Bill & Patty Lisk, Jim & Jane Steel, Darlene Wawrzyniec, Evelyn Hitchcock, Mark & Carmen Kelly, Nicholas Quilty-Koval, Mekhi Young, Dan Howarrd, Judy Kindron, Jerry Moran, Mark Valle, and Kori Cahill.

WRCA welcomed Town of Amherst Highway Superintendent Pat Lucey. Discussion was held regarding the roles/responsibilities of the highway department such as tree trimming, the ash tree situation in our town, street sweepers, storm drainage, mosquito baiting, parks maintenance/grounds and the refuse/garbage pickup which is contracted out to Modern Disposal. Yard waste will be picked up from April 1 to November 30. We thanked him for the placement of totes in the lot next to convenient and it has been noted that they are being used. Mr. Lucey spoke of the recycling costs and changes over the past years and mentioned that there will be an organic composting program available starting May 18th at the Farmer's Market in Williamsville.

Another discussion was held regarding the plans for road paving this upcoming seasons and the proposed roads to be done in Willow Ridge are S Ellicott Creek Road, Hubbardston, Jonathan and McIntosh. Mr. Lucey noted how the price of asphalt affects the list of streets to be done. Right now there are 50 proposed streets out of 1000 streets in Amherst scheduled to be done this year.

Also discussed was street lighting. The street lights on Niagara Falls Blvd is to be started this year and there are plans for lights on Sweethome Rd from Maple to at least the 990 entrance in the works.

A power point presentation was given by Nicholas Quilty-Koval, Mekhi Young, and Mark Valle, SUNY Buffalo State students who have been conducting interviews and studies in Willow Ridge on demographics, zoning changes, traffic circulation and issues, etc. They will be holding a public presentation tentatively May 14th. More details will follow as the become available.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Motion was made to approve the March meeting minutes as it will be published in the April WITW issue by Marijean Nichols and seconded by Ann Nichols.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Donna Mosteller, Treasurer, was excused tonight and will present the treasurer's report at the next meeting on May 14th.

DISCUSSION

Membership & Directory - Jane Sieman reported. Over 450 memberships have been received. The books are done and will be delivered by Willow Ridge Boy Scout Troop 173 on the weekend of April 13th & 14th.

Donations to groups within Willow Ridge by WRCA for such things as community projects, events etc was discussed. Discussed was the need to set guidelines such as asking party needs to be a WRCA member and request needs to be in writing with at least a 30 day advance notice. This discussion will be continued and guidelines set as we do our upcoming budget in the next two months.

Easter Party - Cassandra Schwab reported. WRCA Children's Easter Party was held at Willow Ridge Elementary School on Saturday, April 6th, 2019 at 10 am to noon. It was a huge success with approximately 120 children in attendance. There was an egg hunt, bounce house, games, snacks, music, plenty of volunteers and the Easter Bunny!

Garage Sale details will be given again in the May WITW to WRCA members. Notice to the general public thru social media will follow mid-May. Joe Battaglia needs all info on participants by June 3rd.

All May WITW articles/content is due to Kristin Puff by April 20, 2019.

There being no further business at hand, the meeting came to a close at 9:22 pm. Motion was made by Cassandra Schwab to adjourn and seconded by Andy Annesi. Next Willow Ridge Civic Association meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 14th , at 7:30 p.m. at Ellicott Creek Fire Hall.

Respectfully submitted, Jane Sieman-WRCA Secretary.

WANTED NEWS AND PHOTOS:

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 more!

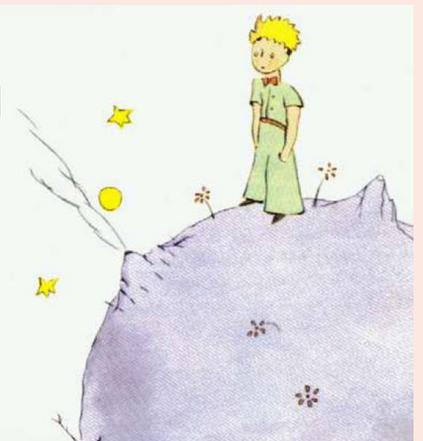
Send your news and photos to 136 Dalewood Drive or email it to WITW@WRCA.US.

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.



SAINT EXUPÉRY WROTE WHILE IN A SELF IMPOSED EXILE IN THE UNITED STATES DURING WORLD WAR II



Great Sadness



Those of us on Willow Green are reeling for the sudden passing our beloved neighbor, Benny Consantino. Though 93, he was very active and always friendly, genuine, smiling and full of life. he was a member of "The Greatest Generations", a WWII paratrooper.



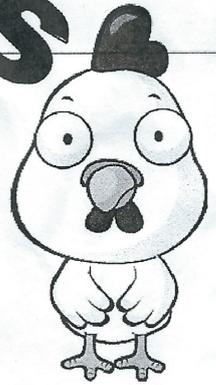
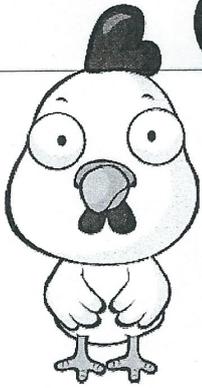
With great sadness, here are the arrangements:

<https://buffalonews.com/2019/05/01/constantino-benny-f/>

Submitted by Bill Richter

Boy Scout Troop 173

Chiavetta's Spring Barbecue



\$10.50/dinner (presale)

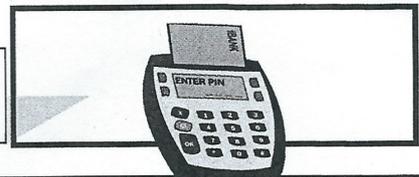
\$11.00 day of event

Includes 1/2 Chiavetta's Famous BBQ Chicken, 2 salads, and Roll with Butter.

When: Saturday, May 11th 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM (or until sold out)

Where: Parking lot next to Convenient on Willow Ridge Dr.
off Niagara Falls Blvd.

FREE DELIVERY in Willow Ridge and Parkview!
Credit/Debit Cards taken the day of sale.



Please contact Lisa at #239-5792 with questions
or to preorder dinners.

Name: _____

Total Paid _____

Address: _____

CK # _____

Phone : _____

of Dinners _____

Home Delivery: Yes _____ No _____ Time Requested _____

Pick Up @ site _____ Time _____

PTO Help Wanted!

Willow Ridge Elementary Needs volunteers and we need some for our first big event, the Scholastic Book Fair!
If anyone can help, they can email Jessica Stephens at jesslynnstephens@gmail.com



MEETING NOTICE!

Willow Ridge Civic Association Meeting
When: Tuesday May 14th at 7:30 PM
Where: Ellicott Creek Volunteer Fire Company Downstairs Training Room

Special Guests: Buffalo State Students will present their final Willow Ridge project. In attendance will also be Buffalo State College Professor and Town of Amherst officials.



GARAGE SALE



Willow Ridge Garage Sale Weekend 2019

June 6th - 9th

To get your sale on the list

Contact Joe Battaglia by

TEXT : 716-863-4586

Email: garagesaleweekend@wrca.us

A WRCA SPONSERED EVENT !



Willow Ridge PTO News and Events

The PTO would love to encourage anyone that has interest to please consider coming to one of the meetings. They are held on the first Tuesday of the month from 6:30-8 (childcare provided) in the Willow Ridge Elementary Cafeteria. You can just to commit to the time and events that you are able to – by joining you are not committing to participate in every event throughout the school year – just a few hours here and there whenever you can. It is all greatly appreciated and new ideas are always welcome! If you would like to get more information please reach out to us through the Willow Ridge PTO Facebook page or contact the Co-President Dawn Rydzynski at dawnrydzynski@yahoo.com.

On-Going School Programs:



BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION – 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.



SCHOOL SPIRIT – Please make sure that your child wears Blue and Gold on Fridays for chances to win prizes with their classroom throughout the year

RECENT EVENTS:

April was a busy month for the PTO. We had an excellent turnout for the Spring Scholastic Book Fair that was April 8-12. In addition to that, we held our Second Annual Science Night on April 12. During the day, students had a hands on experience learning about how a hot air balloon works, where they were able to walk inside of the balloon and see how the flames worked to keep the balloon upright. At night, we had over a dozen local vendors come out to teach kids how science is everywhere. Our guests included the Buffalo Zoo, Penn Dixie, the Niagara Power Authority, Star Lab and Nickel City Reptiles. The kids really stepped up and also donated items from the Buffalo Zoo wish list and we also raised over \$80 to Adopt an Animal with the Buffalo Zoo. The kids got to vote and the winner was the Polar Bear!

–Erin Murphy-Kubiak, PTO Member





Special shout out to Ellicott Creek Volunteer Fire Department for coming to the Easter Party!



Mother's Day Photo Family Craft Tree

1. Cut out family photos in circles or draw pictures of the family and cut out.
2. Tape or glue on the family tree
3. Makes a great gift for mom on Mother's Day.



Willow Ridge Elementary

2018-2019 Calendar of Events

September

- 9/5 - First day of school
- 9/10-9/14 - Book Fair
- 9/11 - PTO Meeting
- 9/14 - Open House and Welcome Back Picnic
- 9/18 - Board of Education Meeting
- 9/21 - Community Day/Homecoming



November

- 11/6 - Staff Development Day
- 11/12 - No School
- 11/13 - PTO Meeting
- 11/16 - Harvest Dance
- 11/19 - Elementary Gold Band
- 11/20 - Board of Education Meeting
- 11/21-11/23 - No School
- 11/27-11/29 - Winter Wonderland



January

- 1/2 - School Resumes
- 1/8 - PTO Meeting
- 1/12 - All County Auditions
- 1/21 - No School
- 1/23 - Skating Party



March

- 3/2 & 3/6 - Elementary All-County Rehearsals
- 3/4-3/5 & 3/11-3/12 & 3/18-3/19 - Kindergarten Registration
- 3/5 - PTO Meeting
- 3/11 - Grade 4 Band Recital
- 3/15 - Staff Development Day & Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 3/15 - Second Trimester Ends
- 3/18 - Grade 4 Orchestra Recital
- 3/19 - Board of Education Voting Meeting
- 3/21 - Parent University
- 3/28 - Grade 5 Parent Orientation



May

- 5/1-5/3 - NYS Math Assessments Grades 3-8
- 5/6-5/7 & 5/8-5/9 & 5/13-5/14 & 5/20-5/21 - UPK Registration
- 5/7 - PTO Meeting
- 5/7 - Annual District Budget Meeting & "Meet the Candidates Night"
- 5/8 - Willow Ridge Chorus Concert
- 5/13 - Elementary Gold Orchestra
- 5/14 - Board of Education Voting Meeting
- 5/15 - Elementary Blue Band and Blue Orchestra Concert
- 5/21 - Annual District Budget Vote
- 5/21 - Elementary Gold Band
- 5/22 - Grade 5 Middle School Visit
- 5/24-5/27 - No School
- 5/29 - Grade 4 & 8 NYS Science Performance Assessments
- 5/31 - Bike Rodeo



October

- 10/1 - District PTO/PTA/PTSA Meeting & Volunteer Celebration
- 10/2 - PTO Meeting
- 10/3 - Picture Day
- 10/3 - Skating Party
- 10/5 - Early Dismissal/Emergency Evacuation Drill
- 10/5 - Influenza Shot Clinic
- 10/8 - No School
- 10/9 - Cookie Dough Fundraiser Begins
- 10/19 - Basket Raffle
- 10/22 - Picture Retake Day
- 10/23 - Cookie Dough Fundraiser Ends



December

- 12/3 - Chorus Concert
- 12/4 - PTO Meeting
- 12/6 - No School
- 12/6 - End of 1st Trimester
- 12/6 - Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 12/7 - No School & Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 12/10 - Elementary Gold Orchestra
- 12/18 - Board of Education Voting Meeting
- 12/24-1/1 - Winter Recess/No School



February

- 2/1 - Staff Development Day
- 2/4 - Candy Sale Fundraiser Starts
- 2/5 - PTO Meeting
- 2/8 - February Frolics
- 2/12 - Board of Education Voting Meeting
- 2/14 - Leadership Day
- 2/18-2/22 - Winter Recess
- 2/27 - Candy Sale Fundraiser Ends



April

- 4/2-4/4 - ELA Assessments Grades 3-8
- 4/2 - PTO Meeting
- 4/8-4/12 - Book Fair
- 4/12 - Science Night
- 4/16 - Board of Education Voting Meeting
- 4/18-4/26 - Spring Recess



June

- 6/3 - Grade 4 & 8 Science Written Assessments
- 6/4 - PTO Meeting
- 6/7 - Bike Rodeo Rain Day
- 6/14 - Flag and Field Day
- 6/18 - Board of Education Voting Meeting
- 6/24 - Early Dismissal
- 6/25 - 5th Grade Moving Up
- 6/25 - Last Day of School/Early Dismissal



Spring Fun Facts -

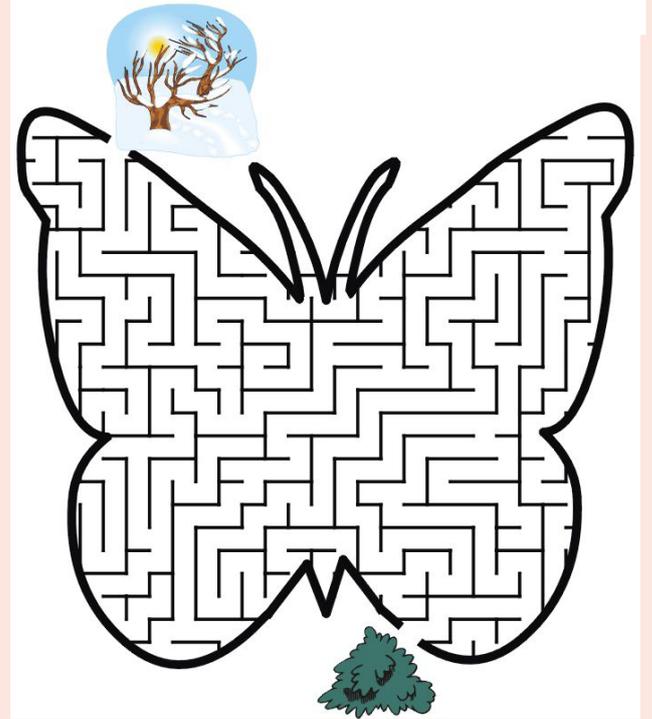
The first day of spring is called the vernal equinox. The term vernal is Latin for "spring" and equinox is Latin for "equal night."

The fall and spring equinoxes are the only two times during the year when the sun rises due east and sets due west.

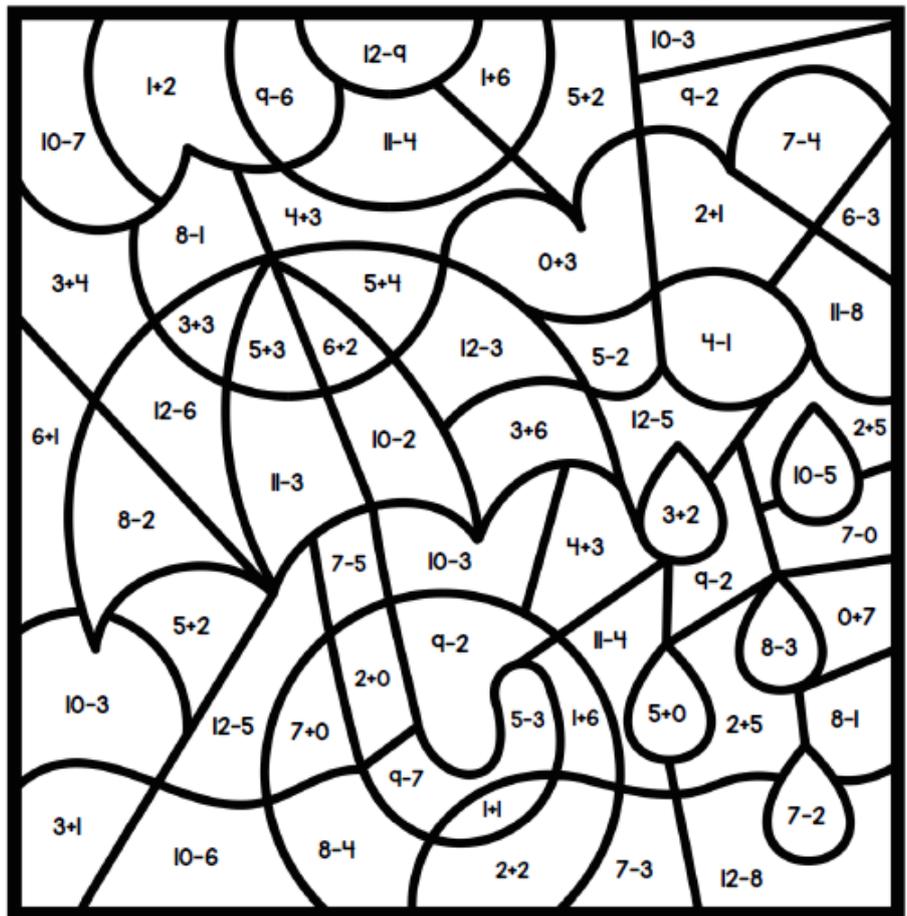
On the first day of spring, a person at the North Pole would see the sun skimming across the horizon, beginning six months of uninterrupted daylight. A person at the South Pole would see the sun skimming across the horizon, signaling the start of six months of darkness.

Spring almost always arrives on March 20 or 21, but sometimes on the 19th. The reason the equinoxes and solstices don't always come on the same day is that Earth doesn't circle the sun in exactly 365 days. The first day of spring in the Southern Hemisphere is the first day of fall in the Northern Hemisphere. Holidays that occur in spring include Easter, Passover, April Fool's Day, Earth Day, Arbor Day, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Cinco De Mayo, and Holi (festival of colors in India).

One long-term study found that, at least in the Colorado Rocky Mountain region, spring begins, on average, about three weeks earlier than it did in the 1970s.



Singing in the Rain—Add & Subtract



Use the color code to finish the picture!

2 = orange	3 = white	4 = green	5 = dark blue
6 = purple	7 = light blue	8 = yellow	9 = pink

Boy Scouts, Troop 173 from Willow Ridge



Worked completed by
Boy Scout
Troop 173

Willow Ridge kiosks,
cleaned up with fresh
paint, new shingles and
mulch looks good!



Original work was
created by
Keith Sieman
as his Eagle Scout
project

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

Hi- I live on Amberwood Dr. I have an older dog, I am looking for a reliable teen to let him out in the back yard daily Monday-Friday. I would prefer mid afternoon. I would pay a daily fee as well.

-Natalie
Email: Naprn99@hotmail.com

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
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www.facebook.com/djekrueger



**Classifies are FREE
for WRCA Members**



BLAT (Bacon-Lettuce-Avocado-Tomato)

Cook bacon in a large skillet over medium heat until crisp, 5 to 10 minutes. Transfer to a paper towel-lined plate. Meanwhile, mash avocado in a medium bowl. Toast bread. Spread about 2 tablespoons of the avocado on 4 slices of toast. Top each with 4 pieces of bacon, 2 tomato slices, 1 lettuce leaf, and the remaining toast.

Serving size: 1 sandwich
Per serving: 342 calories; 16 g fat(3 g sat); 10 g fiber; 36 g carbohydrates; 14 g protein; 58 mcg folate; 15 mg cholesterol; 1 g sugars; 0 g added sugars; 943 IU vitamin A; 11 mg vitamin C; 19 mg calcium; 2 mg iron; 541 mg sodium; 418 mg potassium.