

THE PARK CRIER

WINDING BROOK PARK ASSOCIATION

President's Column

Our neighborhood is known for many good things. It is our collective willingness to contribute to a good cause like the *Winding Brook in Bloom* effort that brought so many wonderful yard landscapes in to view and the *Gift to the Community* Christmas effort. We now have an opportunity to address something that will benefit all of us.

The Board is exploring a proposal to erect a new, continuous fence between the Merrifield Drive and Winding Brook entrances that would be of a single style. It is proposed that the funding come from residents' donations and \$10,000 from Winding Brook's operational budget and not solely fall on the residents who own the property along Day Road but will be shared by all. The Board also assures that the construction shall not begin until a significant percentage of the costs have been obtained.

The Board believes this initiative, and similar projects like it, can go a long way to showcase the collective spirit of Winding Brook's residents and enhance the appearance of our neighborhood to the drive-by public, and by extension, the value of our property.

Discussion will resume on Wednesday, April 16 at a special Board meeting addressing this issue. **Steve Ellis**



Neighborhood Alert System

Great news! Now in place for all residents of Winding Brook is a new texting alert service called "RainedOut". Thanks to new Board members **Chris Peregrine** and **Brian Coffman**, this system will communicate critical information to the neighborhood rapidly.

Chris Peregrine reports that there are two ways to **sign up** :

1. Residents can text on cell phones **WBRESIDENT 84483** to be signed up to receive Resident alerts from Winding Brook Park.
2. OR you can enter your email address at the link listed below and within a few seconds you will receive a 4 digit code. Choose **WBRESIDENT** on the website and after that, you will receive alerts via email. Here is the link:

https://www.rainedout.net/team_page.php?a=a4a3c621564fe250c152

You can also access the link on the Winding Brook website. Please contact a Board member if you would like something sent via the system. What is acceptable to be sent out to the residents will be up to the discretion of the Board.

Have You Paid Your Dues?

Our neighborhood counts on you! For instance, you are reading this newsletter thanks to dues' collection. If you haven't already done so, please send your \$90 check TODAY to WBPA, PO Box 6566, South Bend, IN 46660. All residents who have paid their dues will be listed in a future edition of the Crier.

Board members hard at work at the Annual Meeting.
From left to right: **Scott Kashmarik, Bill Bagatini, Steve Ellis, Michelle Lacay, and Tammy Emery.**





LAUREL ESLINGER

WBPA Board Member

Years on Board: 1 1/2 years

Family: Husband, Bill; two grown children who live in Scottsdale, Arizona and Washington, DC. One darling grandson!

Lived in WB: 21 years

Occupation: Retired!

On the Board: Crier Editor.

Offered to write the Crier and didn't know that I was required to be a board member. Gave me a wonderful opportunity to meet residents who I may never have met and a better understanding of the community I live in.

I like living in WB because: it is so convenient to everything in addition to being a lovely place to live.

Hobbies: Reading, traveling, gardening, card-making, going to the movies, writing newsletters!

WBPA Annual Meeting

The **2014 Annual WBPA Meeting** was held in January. **Steve Ellis**, President, addressed the accomplishments of 2013 which included *Winding Brook in Bloom*, an increase in Crier issues, new street signs and repair of others. Steve updated those present on the efforts to get the Merrifield bridge repaired by the County, investigation of a Facebook page for WB, repair of the Gingerbread House, fixing the lights at the Winding Brook Drive entrance, and plans to repaint the remaining street signs. New board members (see below) were unanimously voted in for their individual terms. Only positive comments regarding the *Gift to the Community* clearly indicated the smooth traffic flow and lack of problems unlike 2013 when several residents attended this meeting to voice their concerns. The regular Board meeting immediately following the Annual Meeting elected officers: **Steve Ellis**, President, **Scott Kashmarik**, Vice President, **Jane Mason**, Secretary, and **Bill Bagatini**, Treasurer. By-law revisions reduced the number of Board meetings from nine to five, the number of Board members to nine-twelve, the President votes only in a case of a tie, and now each residence has one vote on Board issues.



New Board Members (seated from left) **Chris Peregrine**, **Brian Coffman**, and (standing), **Tammy Emery**

2014 Directory

If you are reading the print edition of this Crier, you know that the 2014 Winding Brook Directory has been delivered. Many of us take this marvelous neighborhood resource for granted and expect them to show up each year and without any idea of what goes into the final product. **Katy Cressy** has been spearheading this project for several years now making sure that this Winding Brook tradition continues. She is responsible for the ad collection, editing, and preparing the Directory for printing. **Tara Reilly** organized the Block Captains who reached out to the residents to update or add their information and then Tara used her organizational skills to streamline the data to turn over to Katy. A huge thank you to Katy and Tara and all of our Block Captains whose hard work brought us the 2014 Directory!

WBPA Board

Steve Ellis, President
Scott Kashmarik, Vice President
Jane Mason, Secretary
Bill Bagatini, Treasurer
Laurel Eslinger, Crier Editor
Mike Babcock-Brian Coffman--Lauren Dunbar
Tammy Emery-Chris Peregrine-Tara Reilly

The next **WBPA Board Meeting** will be held
Wednesday, **May 21** 7:00pm
Honkers Restaurant
All residents are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Recent Robberies

Our neighborhood appears to have been under siege in recent months. We know of break-ins and attempted break-ins that happened as far back as last spring and summer. This past Fall, there was one during our extended power outage. In February, one occurred on Luminaire Court, and now in March one on Hearthstone and another on Fox Run Trail and these are the ones that we know of. The most dramatic was the latter when the resident returned while the burglary was in progress. And this was during the daytime, folks. Due to the resident's quick thinking, the police were able to make two arrests before the suspects got away. As of this writing, one of the suspects is still in the County jail charged with burglary. The other suspect was recently released. Another suspect was not apprehended at the time but police feel they have identified him. The question remains, are these men responsible for all of the Winding Brook burglaries? That at this time is unanswerable by the police. **Please come to the Neighborhood Watch meeting on Wednesday, April 23 at 7pm** when your questions can be answered in addition to enhancing your safety knowledge. Regardless of how much we already know, we can continue to learn.



AROUND THE PARK

He o!

Welcome to our new neighbors, **Eric and Natasha Guenther** and their five daughters and family friend, Daniellé, who now call 15670 Hearthstone Drive home. The Guenthers moved here from South Bend early this year. Eric is a State Farm agent and Natasha home schools the girls as well as is an AdvoCare representative. They moved here from Reverewood and are delighted with their new neighborhood!

And also new to Hearthstone Drive are **Sonja and Verna Harrington** at 15570. Welcome to Winding Brook!

Goodbye

Sadly, we need to say goodbye to **Ronan and Jen Simier** and their son who moved to Tampa, FL. A big thank you to Jen who in the year she was on the WBPA Board chaired the Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween Party, and participated with *Winding Brook in Bloom* as well as other Board efforts. She was also a Block Captain. Needless to say Winding Brook is losing a committed, active resident. Best of luck to the Simiers in their new snow-free home! They will be missed.

Our Beloved Impatiens

If you have always enjoyed displaying impatiens in your garden, think twice before planting them this year. An infestation of downy mildew has made its way into Midwest gardens and once it is in your soil, it will kill any future plants. It can be airborne, already on a seedling, as well as lurking in your soil. So sadly, you may have to say farewell if you didn't already do so last summer, to this well loved shade tolerant flower and this includes the double impatient variety as well. Perhaps you may consider wax, Rex, or tuberous begonias, coleus, New Guinea impatiens, lobelia to name a few. Think of it as an opportunity to experience the beauty of new varieties of flowers.

When was the last time you saw Christmas decorations still up well into March? Maybe never! Those Santas, reindeers, and nativity scenes did extra duty this holiday season!

Winding Brook in Bloom

As you have been de osting om a much too long and igid winter, have your thoughts been turning towards green grass, bright blooming flowers, interesting ornamental shrubs, decorative art objects? Ifso, then you are getting a head start on the 2nd Annual Winding Brook in Bloom which wi be held in July. It is not too soon to leaf through those magazines and garden books to get inspiration for your ont yard beautification project that perhaps you have been wanting to do but have been putting o for years. Hopefu y, you wi make 2014 the year you wi actua y act on your dreams. If you would like to be on the committee this year, please email your desire do so to wbpahome@gmail.com and you wi be contacted soon. Just a reminder of the categories: Best Front Yard. Best Mailbox. Best Use of Flowers. Best Use of Containers. So get those gardening gloves out. You wi get to use them soon!



Annual Winding Brook Easter Egg Hunt

When:
Saturday, April 19

Where:
Henry Frank Park

Time:
10:00am

Guest of Honor:
The Easter Bunny!

Mr. Bunny's Chief Helper:
Miche e Lacay with assistance om Tammy Emery, and Steve and Patty E is.

A Gi for You!

A new pilates, yoga, and massage business in Toscana Park, **Beyond Zen Studio**, is offering all residents of Winding Brook a **ee class of their choice!** Check out the schedule listed on their website, www.beyondzenstudio.com for class times. The Studio is geared towards health and wellness and is family friendly with babysitting and children's classes, according to Bridgette Clark, owner.

Adult Event

There has been some talk about bringing back an *adult event*. If you are interested and/or have some ideas of what that event could be, please let the Board know by getting in touch with a Board member or emailing wbpahome@gmail.com. Thanks!

Garage Sale Dates Set

Mark your calendars now! The dates for the 2014 **Winding Brook Garage Sale** are Friday and Saturday, June 20 and 21.

Graduations

If you have a student graduating this year om high school or college and would like him or her to be recognized in the Crier, please forward that info to the Editor at wbpahome@gmail.com. Please include the name of the student, parents' names, and school. If future plans are known, please include that information as we . Deadline to be included in the June Crier is May 10.

Top 5 Reasons You Know Spring is Coming

1. The calendar says so.
2. Your heating bill is lower.
3. We can actually see the ground.
4. Your snowblower has been sitting idle.
5. Winding Brook in Bloom article appears in this issue.

Winding Brook Website:

www.windingbrookpark.com

WBPA
PO Box 6566
South Bend, IN 46660

WBPA email address:
wbpahome@gmail.com

FROM THE EDITOR

After a short break, the Crier is back. Please look for it in May, June, July, August, October, and December if news warrants its publication. That is where you come in. Please think of me when you hear of something newsworthy and contact me at the above email address. Thanks so much!

Laurel Eslinger

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Sheriff 235-9611

Emergency 911

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2014 Dues Are Due!