

THE PARK CRIER

WINDING BROOK PARK ASSOCIATION



GIFT TO THE COMMUNITY WRAP-UP

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's *Gift to the Community!* We heard again and again that this year's light display was one to remember. No matter how many lights you strung on your home this year, you helped contribute to the magic that is our annual fundraiser and you helped support the nine charities that will be benefitting from the collection of **over \$44,000 this year**, so *thank you!*

The judges' votes were tallied and ribbons were hung on mailboxes. The **Best Overall** for 2021 goes to the Trimmergers at 54610 Whispering Oak Drive (pictured above). The judges said the wonderfully bright, festive color lights and great use of space in the front yard was a great mix of the different categories. Other award winners are listed below:

Best Overall

- 1st 54610 Whispering Oak Drive – Trimmerger
- 2nd 15406 Old Bedford Trail – Lorenz/McGill
- 3rd 54630 Whispering Oak Drive – Strasser

Rookie of the Year

- 1st 54751 Winding Brook Drive – Swinehart
- 2nd 54420 Old Bedford Trail – Christiana
- 3rd 15640 Hearthstone Drive – Kromer

Most Original

- 1st 15690 Springmill Drive – Ferrell
- 2nd 54589 Whispering Oak Drive – Williamson
- 3rd 54450 Old Bedford Trail – Olsen

Best Theme

- 1st 54559 Whispering Oak Drive – Johnston
- 2nd 15685 Hearthstone Drive – Smith
- 3rd 15831 Branchwater Way – Benavente/Gutierrez

Best Faith-Based Theme

- 1st 15377 Carriage Lane – Bonadies
- 2nd Little Flower Trail – Bagatini
- 3rd Briarton Drive – Miller, M.

Clark Griswold Would Be Proud

- 1st 15649 Springmill Drive – Vellos
- 2nd 15668 Winding Brook Drive – Gill
- 3rd 54405 Old Bedford Trail – Onderdonk

Martha Stewart Would Be Proud

- 1st 54724 Old Bedford Trail – Reber
- 2nd 54723 Beaver Creek Trail – Polaski
- 3rd 54739 Bonnethill Trail – Oliva

Best Front Door

- 1st 54470 Old Bedford Trail – Cocquyt
- 2nd 15830 Branchwater Way – Montgomery
- 3rd 54689 Winding Brook Drive – Makielski

Best Artisan

- 1st 15432 Carriage Lane – Cybulski
- 2nd 54706 Winding Brook Drive – Putman
- 3rd 54578 Old Bedford Trail – Craig

Judges' Picks

- 1st 15628 Baintree Way – Ballew
- 2nd 54318 Old Bedford Trail – Beristain
- 3rd 15560 Hearthstone Drive – Elliott

President's Corner

Hello Neighbors,

Happy New Year! I want to officially welcome Sofia Gutierrez (Branch Water Way) and Mark Thornton (Embers Drive) to the WBPA Board of Directors. They both care deeply about our neighborhood and have many talents which to give. Please consider them additional sounding boards for your ideas, concerns, and questions.

When the Board meets in January, we plan to chart a brief list of goals for 2022 which we will share with the community. One thing I'd like to highlight is a planned update/revision of our neighborhood directory. If you feel like you haven't seen one in awhile or have new unknown neighbors, you are not alone! If you have moved to WBPA in the last two years and want to help us get a head start, please email wbpahome@gmail.com.

—Brian Powell

A HUGE THANK YOU!

With several recent shifts on the Board, this year's Gift to the Community would not have been possible without the help of multiple Board members stepping up. A sincere thank you to President Brian Powell for leading the initiative and passing out luminaries, and to our judges Zach Dripps, Ryan Howell, and Kyle Umbarger. A special "welcome to the Board" and thank you to Sofia Gutierrez and Mark Thornton for joining the Board and immediately taking on GTTC responsibilities. Thank you to Maria Carter for stepping in to cover multiple nights of volunteer organization and the final pieces of the luminary distribution. Thank you to Mariah Cressy for taking pictures of the award winners, organizing the charity volunteers, and passing out awards. Thank you to Tim Sullivan for setting up directional signs, the gingerbread house, and the banners. Thanks to Ryan Howell and Kyle Umbarger for organizing security and police for the event. Thanks to all participating Board members for being a resource for the charity volunteers throughout collection nights. And thank you to all others who helped this event come together.



- 1 1st Best Artisan — 15432 Carriage Lane, Cybulski
- 2 1st Clark Griswold Would Be Proud — 15649 Springmill Drive, Vellos
- 3 1st Judges' Pick — 15628 Baintree Way, Ballew

nextdoor

Are you signed up with NextDoor yet? This website is a social platform based on your address. You can choose to only get alerts from Winding Brook Park or include surrounding neighborhoods. *This is our neighborhood's primary means of immediate communication.* This is where we communicate with our neighbors about upcoming events, meetings, safety concerns, etc.

You can sign up at nextdoor.com or by going to our windingbrookpark.com homepage and clicking the icon in the top right-hand corner.

2022 DATES TO REMEMBER

Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 16

Neighborhood Garage Sale
Saturday, June 25

July 4th Parade
Monday, July 4th

WBPA BOARD

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Brian Powell—President; | Ryan Howell; Ryan |
| George Cressy, III—Treasurer; | Kreager; Kathy Smith |
| Mariah Cressy—Secretary & | Tim Sullivan |
| Crier Editor | Mark Thornton |
| Maria Carter; Sofia Gutierrez | Kyle Umbarger |

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WBPA
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WINDING BROOK PARK DIRECTORY

One of our WBPA Board tasks for 2022 is to iron out our directory-updating process. Since our neighborhood directories are in print-form, it's a difficult task to keep these up-to-date; on the other hand, it can be extremely helpful to have a print copy of our neighbors' contact information, especially for those who aren't as technologically savvy. We will keep you updated on this process.

In the meantime, if your contact information has changed from what is listed in the directory you currently have, please email wbpahome@gmail.com with your updated information so that we can include it in our update.

AROUND THE PARK

News & Happenings

We are excitedly awaiting one of our newest residents! The **Ouellette family** will be welcoming a new baby girl any day now. If you'd like to participate in a meal train for the Ouellette family, please contact Mariah Cressy at (574) 339-4941.



Our condolences to the friends and family of the Smiths.

Andy Smith passed away on Thanksgiving Day, November 25; he and his wife Kathy have been long-time residents of our neighborhood and served on the WBPA Board. In lieu of flowers, the family is asking that donations be made to Horizon Elementary School, 10060 Brummitt Road Granger, IN 46530 c/o Andy Smith for a memorial bench and tree in his honor.





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- 1 1st Most Original — 15690 Springmill Drive, Ferrell
- 2 1st Best Rookie of the Year — 54751 Winding Brook Drive, Swinehart
- 3 1st Best Theme — 54559 Whispering Oak Drive, Johnston
- 4 1st Martha Stewart Would Be Proud — 54724 Old Bedford Trail, Reber
- 5 1st Best Front Door — 54470 Old Bedford Trail, Cocquyt

Not pictured:
1st Best Faith-Based Theme — 15377 Carriage Lane, Bonadies



Above: This year, neighbors on Old Bedford and Carriage Lane got together for a caroling party! Mark and Jennifer Havard brought together carolers to sing Christmas songs and pass out candy canes to cars passing by.

ANNUAL DUES

Annual dues statements will be emailed out within the next two months, in an attempt to save paper and associated costs. Please keep an eye out for that email.

If you'd like to get a head start on this process, you can drop a check in the mail for \$110 to P.O. Box 6566, South Bend, IN 46660. Please make sure to include your neighborhood address. Or you can open your smartphone camera and hold the camera over the QR code to the right to pay \$110 via CashApp (please include your address in a comment).

