

# THE PARK CRIER

## Winding Brook Park Association



As seen from the photo, May was a volatile month with the tree taken down by the storm that blocked Merrifield, gun shots ringing out, and a power outage. In spite of these unusual occurrences, Winding Brook continues to be a wonderful place to live.

### Neighborhood Clean-up Day

Have you been contemplating doing some clean-up work to your front yard but sometimes life gets in the way? We eventually get to that place in our lives when we just can't do the work anymore or we have health issues that prohibit us from doing so. ***Please let your neighbors help!!!*** We are excited to announce a **Neighborhood Clean-up Day on June 29** where volunteers can come to your home to do some weeding, trim some bushes, plant some flowers or some other yard work that needs to be done. Please contact the Board to let them know you could use some help. The only things you need to keep in mind: the work will need to be completed in a two-hour block of time, no projects will include the use of a ladder, and the work will be done in the front yard only. So please reach out to allow us to do this for you! You can contact us by emailing at [wbpahome@gmail.com](mailto:wbpahome@gmail.com). We look forward to hearing from you. And, **would you like to volunteer for this project?** It can't happen without you!

**Let's make this a clean-up day for the entire neighborhood. See you out in your yards on June 29!**

**WBPA Meeting**  
**Wednesday,**  
**June 19, 2019**  
**6:00pm**

**St. Joseph Regional Medical Center**  
**Conference Room B (this is a tentative**  
**location-will update on Nextdoor)**  
**All residents encouraged to attend. Safety**  
**concerns will be addressed.**

**GARAGE**  
**SALE**



### Annual Winding Brook Garage Sale

**Saturday, June 22**  
**8:00-2:00pm**

**It is hoped that**  
**Salvation Army**  
**will be able to pass**  
**through the neighborhood**  
**after the sale!**

### Annual Dues

Next month, please look for the complete listing of those residents who have paid their dues to date. The information was not available for this printing. In the meantime, if you haven't already made the list, it is not too late!

## President's Corner

Dear Neighbors,

I hope this finds you doing well as summer approaches. While the rain has been relentless, I do appreciate the longer days and warmer temps and knowing that summer days are coming soon. With warmer weather on the way, we hear more about the crime rates heating up. Sociologists determined long ago that there is a direct correlation between warmer weather and increased criminal activity and unfortunately, we have had a few incidents here recently that have many concerned. I thought I would touch on a few reminders:

First, we need to understand that crime can happen anywhere at any time. I know none of us want to hear this and believe bad things never happen in Winding Brook, and for the most part, that is still very true. That said, we need to be vigilant, and keep our eyes and ears open and look after each other, and very importantly, report suspicious activity when it happens. The St. Joe County Sheriff's Office has reminded me that residents should call **911** if it is an emergency and **574-235-9611** for non-emergency situations. Reports are documented and patrols are stepped up accordingly. As always, keep a watchful eye on your kids, turning your post and porch lights on at night, shutting and locking home and auto doors and windows are simple steps to keeping you and your family safe. Also, ***please remember if you see something suspicious and potentially criminal in nature, say something and call the police and let them follow up.*** If it is not urgent or not an emergency, use the Nextdoor app.

If you still have questions or concerns, feel free to contact me directly and/or consider attending our next **Board Meeting which is June 19 at 6:00pm at the St. Joseph Regional Medical Center Conference Room B. (tentative location)** It is in the lower level of the hospital. All Board meetings are always open to all residents. Look forward to seeing you there.

See you around the neighborhood, **Michael Miller**

Where your beautiful gardens begin.®



**Vite**  
**GREENHOUSES**

Hours:	April	May	Jun-Oct
Mon-Fri	8-8	8-8	9-6
Saturday	8-6	8-8	9-5
Sunday	CLOSED		

Directions on back

2610 Redbud Trail S.  
Niles, MI 49120  
vitegreenhouses.com

(269)695-2959  
email: info@vitegreenhouses.com

## Neighborhood Security

In May, 2016, it was announced that the security company contract we had with Majestic Security was not renewed. Prior to this time, the Board had been discussing and reviewing the contract for at least three years. It was determined that the increasing costs were not sustainable and not worth the 'perceived' coverage and service that we were supposed to be receiving. The Board voted to terminate the contract and instead invest in enhancing the Neighborhood Watch program, to design an enhanced website to foster better communication and build awareness, and to consider lighting and other security measures at entrances. While we were under contract, a string of home burglaries occurred and the culprits were not thwarted by security. While the patrols did help, sometimes, in alerting residents if their garage doors were open, crimes still occurred. I personally had my car broken into and my briefcase stolen on a night when security was in place. In short, security patrols consisted of a brief drive through the neighborhood, and unless a crime was about to take place, it was very unlikely the security guard would catch it. They also had other neighborhoods to patrol so they were not in ours all night long. Since then, Nextdoor has been a very useful means for quickly communicating concerns among neighbors. I have seen notifications come through about suspicious cars and activity and the recent shooting. This is not a perfect solution, but it is helping as the Board continues to consider additional options. As stated in my monthly column, please consider attending the Board meeting on June 19 that will address safety concerns.

**Michael**

### 4th of July Parade!

Mark your calendars for this long-time Winding Brook tradition! The parade, led by a firetruck, will start at 10:00am on July 4. Prior to that, come for bike, Big Wheel, car, and stroller decorating at 9:00. Stay for refreshments following the parade!

### WBPA BOARD

**Michael Miller, President**  
**Zach Dripps, Vice President**  
**Laurel Eslinger, Secretary**  
**George Cressy, III, Treasurer**

**Sharon Burden—Maria Carter**  
**Mariah Cressy**

**Josh Higginbotham**  
**Ryan Howell—Brain Powell—Kathy Smith**  
**Tim Sullivan—Kyle Umbarger**



Almost everyday, your Winding Brook neighbors are signing up to keep better informed. For those of you who have already joined, you know Nextdoor's value as a tool that is helping to connect our neighborhood. Nextdoor is a private online network based on address so it is exclusive to Winding Brook unless you choose to include surrounding neighborhoods. Your choice. **This is now the vehicle that is used to alert you when there is something urgent that you should know regarding safety issues, upcoming meetings, events, items for sale, lost pets, etc.**

Please consider signing up if you haven't already done so. It is well worth it and will help keep your family safe, informed, and up to date on our neighborhood. Just log into our website at [windingbrookpark.com](http://windingbrookpark.com). Look for the link in the upper right corner. It is faint so look hard!

## Winding Brook in Bloom

Come July, our annual front yard beautification contest will take place. Prizes will be awarded for the **Best Front Yard, Best Use of Flowers, Best Mailbox, Best Use of Foliage, Best Container Gardening** and **Most Improved**. The latter is open to any residents that have lived in Winding Brook for less than a year and who have made significant improvements to their front yard. Please submit *before and after pictures* by the first week in July to be considered for this award. Gift certificates from local garden centers donate the prizes for this event. Happy planting, weeding, and trimming!

## AROUND THE PARK

### New Residents

**Paul and Brenda Bertha** and Brenda's mother, **Lucille Chupp**, are the new residents at 15651 Robin Lane. They along with two of their five children moved to Winding Brook from Dunlap/Elkhart area. Paul is in banking and Brenda is an RN. Lucille is retired.

### Congratulations!

George Cressy, IV arrived on May 20 weighing in at 6lbs. 14 oz. and is the son of Board members **George Cressy, III** and **Mariah Cressy**. So happy for you!

### Stepping Up

Thanks to the County for stepping up when we needed them. The tree that was felled by the recent storm that blocked Merrifield was promptly removed and most of you saw the speed monitoring that was placed on Merrifield and Winding Brook Drive making us aware that we may be going too fast. They are now gone—hopefully we will still be reminded of them and a tragedy will be prevented from happening. Please SLOW DOWN!



## Congratulations, Graduates!

**Goerge** and **Kate Cressy** are proud to announce that they have two graduations this year. **Evie** graduated from Marian High School and will attend Purdue University this fall. She will be pursuing studies in health and human sciences. She is excited to join other neighborhood Boilers—her childhood best friend, Charlotte Voor, as well as cousins Charlie Meier and Scout Spalding. Boiler Up!

Their son, **Sam**, graduated from Indiana University's Kelly School of Business with three majors: Finance, Accounting, and Real Estate. He is moving back to the area and will work with his dad at Cressy Commercial Company!

## New Board Members

The WBPA Board of Directors has increased its ranks with the addition of three new members. They are **Maria Carter**, **Brian Powell**, and **Kyle Umbarger**. We welcome them and appreciate them for stepping up to contribute in this way to Winding Brook.

**Maria Carter: 15595 Carriage Lane** Maria and her family moved here six years ago for her husband, Weston's, family medicine residency at St. Joseph Regional Hospital. They were sold on Winding Brook for the look of the neighborhood and the fact that Weston could walk to work and that they could also walk to their church. Maria has a BS in Food Science with a minor in Chemistry from Brigham Young University. After college, she flipped a 1906 built home in Toledo, Ohio which they lived in which Maria says was amazingly fun. She is currently a stay at home mom and has been a foster parent in the past which is something she may do again. Recently, Maria's parents came to join them and moved into a home on Hearthstone Drive. Maria hopes to meet more people in the neighborhood by being on the Board.



**Brian Powell: 54725 Merrifield** Brian and his wife Kathy moved to South Bend in 2013 and joined the Winding Brook community in 2018. Brian has worked years serving as the Athletics Advancement Coach for the Women's to moving to Indiana, Virginia where they Madison University. children. Brian studied History at Georgetown Masters from the Louisville. He is Center for the Boys and Girls Club. His interest in serving on the Board is to build community and help support a sense of neighborhood pride.



**Kyle Umbarger: 54286 Old Bedford Trail** Kyle and his family moved to the neighborhood four years ago. He and his wife Kathy have two children and a Beagle named Bagel who is almost 15. Kyle is a Purdue graduate and went to high school in Rochester. His wife is from this area and after living in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area for three years, they moved 'home'. Kyle is a sales rep for Swedish Match and his wife works for Beacon. Kyle really likes this neighborhood and would like to help out with whatever he can.



## What's Happening in Michiana

June 2-8 **Best Week Ever**  
Various locations and events in South Bend

June 7 **Meet me on the Island** 5:30 -10:00pm Island Park, Century Center

June 7-9 **Greek Fest** St.. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church

June 7-9 **Rhapsody Art and Music Festival** Island Park, Elkhart

June 14 **Shortcakes on the Blacktop** Cathedral of St. James South Bend

June 16-16 **Leeper Park Art Fair** South Bend June 21-23 **Elkhart Jazz Festival** Downtown Elkhart

**Winding Brook Website:**  
[windingbrookpark.com](http://windingbrookpark.com)

**WBPA**  
**PO Box 6566**  
**South Bend, IN 46660**

**WBPA email address:**  
[wbpahome@gmail.com](mailto:wbpahome@gmail.com)

### FROM THE EDITOR

Hi Neighbors,

Do you have information about new residents, births, deaths, weddings, special accolades or anything you would deem newsworthy. Please send them on to our email address —[wbpahome@gmail.com](mailto:wbpahome@gmail.com).

Thanks!

**Laurel Eslinger**

