

“THE WARDCLIFFE WORD” Spring 2026

Hoping everyone is enjoying a safe and healthy spring. Your officers decided that we need to publish one more written newsletter since we seem to have fewer people attending our meetings and, we have a low level of dues participation. Communication is the key.

Time for Wardcliffe Neighborhood Association’s (WNA) \$20 annual dues

Dues are voluntary and are collected annually during spring/summer. WNA relies on annual dues to maintain our park (mowing), host annual neighborhood events such as National Night Out, maintain subdivision entrances, continue our Neighborhood Watch/Call-Em-All, and sponsor Holiday lighting and Summer Curb Appeal and Landscaping awards.

Please make your dues check payable to Wardcliffe Neighborhood Association or hand-deliver to our treasurer, Marguerite Everts address: [2721 N. Kingston Dr., Peoria, IL 61604](#). Please note that currently, dues for the first year you moved into the Wardcliffe Subdivision are waived. During the March 11 association meeting we will be voting to discontinue this policy.

Important Date

The next Neighborhood Association general meeting will be held at 6 pm on Wednesday, March 11 in the small meeting room of the AMT building located at [1718 N. Sterling Ave](#). The agenda will be posted on our website before the meeting. All current residents of Wardcliffe are invited to attend and participate. **Of course we want you to attend our meetings in-person, but are making an attempt to provide a link so you can attend virtually. Watch for signs posted at subdivision entrances and visit our website: <https://wardcliffeassociation.com>**

Join us! You can help keep Wardcliffe a great place to Live by participating and sharing your ideas.

The link to the virtual meeting on March 11, 6 - 8 pm is: <https://meet.google.com/hyd-echb-pui> and phone number is (US) +1 470-268-2198 PIN: 967 849 709# or, another path:

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/hyd-echb-pui>

Or dial: (US) +1 470-268-2198 PIN: 967 849 709#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/hyd-echb-pui?pin=7025425030198>

Call-Em-All, Text-Em-All

Call-Em-All is a quick, efficient, inexpensive method to talk with Wardcliffe residents. To sign up call Bob at 309-229-4579 or send him an email: rbeckenbaugh1@sbcglobal.net. We need your name, street and email address plus the phone number where you want to be contacted. There is no charge for this service. Usage fees are paid from association dues. Your contact info will be added to the database and never shared with anyone except WNA committee team business. Examples of past calls relate to event notification such as annual association meetings

and specific reports related to criminal activity in our neighborhood. Please join us in our effort to improve our communication channels.

If you have questions or want to recommend an agenda item, please contact one of the association Co-Presidents:

Ron Givens rongi3@sbcglobal.net

Bob Beckenbaugh rbeckenbaugh1@sbcglobal.net

2026 Events Calendar

WNA events may be cancelled at any time. Check our website for last-minute changes: <https://wardcliffeassociation.com>

March 11, 6 - 7:30 Wardcliffe Neighborhood Association General Meeting, AMT building located at [1718 N. Sterling Ave](#), small conference room.

April 18, 8 - noon **City Waste Dumpster requested** for Lehman Rd. **No paint, tires or electronics are permitted. Dates are not confirmed until end of March. If approved, need volunteers to monitor the site.**

May 16, 9 - 11 am Annual Wardcliffe Neighborhood Association Meeting, AMT building located at [1718 N. Sterling Ave](#). Large conference room. Donuts and coffee provided. Please attend.

June 19, 8 - noon **Wardcliffe Neighborhood Garage Sales**

August 4, 4 – 7 pm National Night Out Against Crime Karen Kortz is chair. Please volunteer to help.

October 10, 8 am to noon Yard Waste only Trash Dumpster on Lehman Rd. **No tires, paint or electronics permitted. Will need volunteers to monitor the site.**

2025 – 2026 Significant News

If you would like to receive the Wardcliffe Word Newsletter via email please send your email address to Bob Beckenbaugh . rbeckenbaugh1@sbcglobal.net

2025 WNA Holiday Decorating/Lighting Contest winners. CONGRATULATIONS!

Thanks to the judging by Dave and Joyce Billings, here are the results of the contest. Three \$ 25 gift certificates were awarded. We appreciate you for lighting up our neighborhood!

Derrick Wenger, [2915 W. Kingston Dr.](#)

Sue & Tom Skahill, [3315 W. Overbrook Dr.](#)

Victor Pare, [2710 N. Kingston Dr.](#)

Website Status – Steve Contos, WNA webmaster - reports that our website is up and running. The bill for the website has been paid to the company that by Hosea Washington, our neighbor and

initial project lead, selected to set -up the website template. The cost of this service and hosting was paid for out of the City of Peoria Mini-Grant program. Steve's plan is to continually add fresh content and to create a new section where residents can offer or request services such as baby-sitting, painting, lawn care and snow shoveling. We have a lot of work to do to improve our web site. Anyone with skills and experience that wants to volunteer their expertise should contact Steve Contos. Tel: 815-600-5907 steve.contos@gmail.com

Membership – Chris Everts – reports that 2025-2026 dues participation is very low. He stated that we need to encourage more residents to pay their dues to make up our proposed budget shortfall. This year 71 residents have paid their dues, which is only 18% of total. He explained that most of the dues paid is by residents who have been in the neighborhood for 14 plus years. We can also thank Chris for creating our 2025-2026 budget template and sorting the excel worksheets to provide the following WNA Dues Paid History (417 lots in Wardcliffe):

2023 - 153 (53 %); 2024 - 138 (38 %); 2025 - 71 (18%) as of Jan 14, 2026

CITY OF PEORIA KEY CONTACTS:

1st District Councilman: Denise Jackson 309 406 6509 djackson@peoriagov.org

Peoria Cares/Neighborhood issues: 309 494 2273 peoriagov.org

Community Development: Lamia Doueih, 309.494.8637 Ldoueih@peoriagov.org

Land Development/Coding Issues: Matt Smith 309 494 8622 mjsmith@peoria.gov

Police Emergency: 911; Non-emergency: 309 673 4521

Peoria General Information: 309 494 8300

WARDCLIFFE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION OFFICERS:

CO-PRESIDENTS: Ron Givens 309 685 6353 rongi3@sbcglobal.net

Bob Beckenbaugh 309 229 4579 rbeckenbaugh1@sbcglobal.net

SECRETARY: Rachael Parker 309 922 5916 rachaelcakes@yahoo.com

TREASURER: Marguerite Everts 309 682 5813 chriseverts6787@comcast.net

MEMBERSHIP: Chris Everts 309 256 5689 chriseverts6787@comcast.net

WEBMASTER: Steve Contos 815-600-5907 steve.contos@gmail.com

WELCOME COMMITTEE: Aloysia Mitchell 309- 453-9587

armitchell100@yahoo.com

If you are interested in helping keep Wardcliffe a great place to live, consider becoming a Section Director. We have several openings, please volunteer. The only qualification is a desire to attend board meetings, assist where needed on committees, and serve as communication liaison for your section. It is recommended that each section have three directors. If you would like to help keep our subdivision a beautiful and safe place to live, please consider attending a meeting to find out what we are doing and how you can help.

SECTION DIRECTORS: Section 1 – vacant; Section 4 – vacant (Please volunteer)

Section 2 - Rachael Parker rachaelcakes@yahoo.com

Section 3 - Aloysia and Ken Mitchell armitchell100@yahoo.com

Section 5 - Barbara Jackson jacksonsjb@sbcglobal.net; James Flemming jessiejamesbriss79@gmail.com

Section 6 - Karen Kortz paulkaren99@hotmail.com

Section 7 - Bob Beckenbaugh (rbeckenbaugh1@sbcglobal.net ; Dave Billings billings11744@comcast.net

How to be a Good Neighbor...Thank You

Please observe the posted 25 mph speed limit and Stop signs in Wardcliffe.. Help keep our park clean. If you use the park, please dispose of trash properly.. If you notice activity in the park that “doesn’t look right”, please contact the police to investigate. If you are interested in helping keep Wardcliffe a great place to live, consider becoming a Section Director. Remember your trash and or recycle containers need to be removed from the curb or sidewalk by evening the day of pickup. reminder to those who have tree limbs or branches down from storms—They need to be picked up or tied in bundles one person can lift or the PDC Landscape truck will not pick them up. Please be a responsible pet owner and clean up dog waste. Trim grass and weeds growing along fences pull weeds from curb and gutters. Do not put grass clippings or leaves in the street or along curb (code violation)

WORKING BUDGET May 2025 - May 2026

INCOME:

2025-26 Dues Received as of 11/2025 (70)	\$ 1,645.00	(Lower than Normal)
Additional Dues possible (20)	\$ 400.00	
Website Grant Reimbursement	\$ 500.00	
Night Out Reimbursement	\$ 200.00	

PROJECTED 2025-2026 INCOME \$ 2,745.00

PARK & ORGANIZATION EXPENSES \$ 2,585.00

# Neighborhood Night Out	\$ 640.00
# Park Mowing & Landscaping	\$ 700.00
# Stormwater Assessment	\$ 30.00
Park & Neighborhood Insurance	\$ 1,200.00
# Organization Fee to IL Sec. of State	\$ 15.00

COMMUNICATION EXPENSES: \$ 1,100.00

# Website Hosting & Maintenance (grant 2025)	\$ 500.00
Entrance Meeting Sign Update	\$ 250.00
Newsletter Printing	\$ 300.00
# Annual meeting (refreshments)	\$ 50.00

NEIGHBORHOOD AWARDS: \$ 330.00

# Welcome Mats for New Residents	\$ 180.00
# Curb Appeal (NENA Hardware)	\$ 75.00
Holiday Decorations	\$ 75.00

PROJECTED 2025-2026 EXPENSES \$ 4,015.00

PROJECTED: INCOME - EXPENSES \$ (1,270.00)

These items have already been expensed for the year

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