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November/December ~ 2018



VOTE

Tuesday, November 6th Polls open: 6 am - 9 pm



Daylight Savings Time Ends Sunday, November 4th - 2 am



TIS THE SEASON TO SHOP LOCAL

WHAT'S INSIDE?

President's Message ~ Woodlawn Park
The Golden Ear ~ Woodlawn Preserve
Westside Story ~ Community Highlights
ECOS (Recycling) ~ Public Safety Info.
Senior Center News...and more

Woodlawn Neighborhood Meetings - 4th Wednesday of the month 7 PM @ Hibernian Hall (1748 State Street)



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Hibernian Hall
King Cork
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Schenectady East Rotary Club

Breakfast meetings on Wednesdays 7:30 - 8:30 AM Ancient Order of Hibernians 1748 State Street Schenectady, NY 12304 374-8891

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Election Day Info...Holiday Dinner...November Guest...





Please remember to vote on Election Day, Tuesday November 6th. Polls are open from 6 AM until 9 PM. If you need any information regarding your polling place or you are in need of a ride to the polling site, please contact the Schenectady County Board of Elections at 377-2469.

Our annual Holiday dinner is tentatively scheduled for **Wednesday**, **December 12** at **Kingsway Community**. Reminder, the event is limited to immediate members of the Woodlawn Neighborhood Association only. You must sign-up at our November meeting please! **Seating is limited to 60 folks**. A waiting list will be established after. You may also contact Lou Grasso at 346-6775 or at stop by his barber shop at 2506 Albany Street to register.

As we continue to lead by example, let's offer our senior neighbors your time in helping clear their sidewalks and driveways from that dreaded snow fall that is certainly on its way. It is always a nice way of saying "Welcome To Woodlawn".

Reminder, our association meetings are on the fourth Wednesday of each month starting at 7 PM, Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall, 1748 State Street. Our meetings are open to any city resident! We would love meet you and say "Welcome."

We have once again rescheduled the **City of Schenectady Public Safety Commissioner Mike Eidens** to attend our **November 28th meeting.** As you may have read, Mr. Eidens is also overseeing the City Codes/Building Departments as well. Because of the Holiday schedule, we will **NOT** be meeting in December.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at home, **377-8810**. I will make every attempt to return your call as soon as possible.

Ed Kosiur—President, Woodlawn Neighborhood Association



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The Golden Ear—By John Rose This Is A Gossip Column



Street Paving in the Woodlawn Area – Streets that have been completed are Halsey Drive, Coniston Road, Gibson Street, Patrick Court and the Eastern section of Woodlawn. The roads look great! Thank you City Council and Mayor McCarthy!! Still to come, Windemere Road, Sullivan Road and Nimitz Road.

St Paul's Church – St Paul's Church on Albany Street is still waiting for a new Pastor. There currently is none available. There are 9 parishes in the Albany Diocese still waiting for a new Pastor. There is a plan to appoint a Parish Life Director who will run the business end of the parish. They will then appoint a Sacramental Minister to perform masses, possibly a retired Priest. This will take about three weeks.

Chris Marotta runs Marotta's Pizza next door to the Cumberland Farms on the corner of Albany Street and Watt Street. The food is spectacular, and they have a very large menu. You can dine in or take out. They also cater all parties and events.

Just a reminder to get your car winterized at G&M Auto on State Street next door to the fire station. They are very experienced in all makes of cars and trucks. My family and I use them, and we are very happy with their service. Mike and Bob are excellent mechanics.

As winter approaches, just a reminder to keep an eye for stray cats and dogs that have been abandoned and need shelter. Recently, two dogs were picked up on Golf Road near Babe Ruth, and they appeared to have been neglected and abandoned.

That's all for now folks and I'll be listening.

John Rose



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WOODLAWN – The West Side Story By Marcel

Once again, I'm asking our Woodlawn residents to please support our local businesses. A Touch By Love Hair Studio, as the name implies, is a hair cutting and styling business located at 1760 State Street (Across from La Mexicana). The owners, Orlondo and Leasa, are also husband and wife. A Touch By Love has been in business at this location since March 2018. For appointments, please call 518-334-4175. I do believe that they also accept walk-ins.

Orlondo and Leasa each have over 20 years of experience in the hair cutting/styling business. Orlondo is a Master Barber. A Touch By Love caters to everyone (Male/Female) including specialized national and religious styling preferences. The hair styling location looks and feels very much like a home living room with all its warmth and comfort. There is a Man Cave located in the back satisfying those of us with more machismo hair cutting needs.

According to Leasa, the business inspiration comes from her mother, who passed away in 2018. Her mother's middle name is Love which has been incorporated into the business name. She instilled a sense of caring and sharing. Her mother's saying was to "Reach One/Teach One". Both Leasa and Orlondo have adopted this as part of their culture. Leasa has freely donated her time to the Make a Wish causes. A few years back, she did the hair styling for a young woman, dying of cancer, prior to her Central Park Wedding. Orlondo has mentored several young men who have subsequently pursued a career in hair styling. Both Orlondo and Leasa have donated their time and skill by providing free school haircuts to students in need.

Their place of business has also been a respite for those who need to talk, personal and otherwise.

So, if you need hair styling, or just want to stop in to converse, then please visit Leasa and Orlondo at the Touch By Love Hair Studio.

On another note, Cheryl, the former Camillos owner, is now working at the Renaissance Hall, located at the old St Mary's Church on Eastern Avenue. To my knowledge, her schedule is Wed-Sat evenings. Aside from offering food and beverage, the Renaissance hosts events such as comedy, musical and wedding celebrations.

Till next time....



Use the Citizen Request Tracker on the city's website to report your concerns

http://www.cityofschenectady.com/RequestTracker.aspx

Potholes...snowplowing...codes and housing concerns... sidewalks...nuisance...street lighting...garbage pickup... water/sewer issues...and much more.







Welcome to the *Schenectady Social Connection!*

November 2018

The November chilly mornings are a reminder that winter is slowly approaching and with that comes colder temperatures and the possibility of snowy weather. Please be advised that the Schenectady Senior Center follows the Schenectady City School District schedule, so if the school closes due to weather, so does the center. However, if there is a school delay, we will be open. The Senior Center parking lot will be plowed, but we still advise you to be careful and to watch for ice as it can be slippery.

November 4th marks the end to Daylight Savings Time, so remember to set your clocks back 1 hour and enjoy some extra sleep. November 11th is Veteran's Day. It is important to take this day to celebrate, remember and honor America's veterans for their patriotism, dedication and service. We would like to recognize our members who are veterans with a complementary lunch on Thursday, **November 8**th. We hope you can join us to honor our veterans. On Thursday, **November 15**th, we will celebrate the Senior Center's 1 year anniversary with a Thanksgiving Dinner. Please note that the Senior Center will be closed **November 20**th and 22nd for the Thanksgiving holiday. Please remember that Walmart Vision Services will be here on November 6th, along with Kingsway Home Care for the monthly Blood Pressure Clinic on November 27th. Sincerely, *Deb Berner and Rachael Pidgeon*

December 2018

2018 is coming to an end, and we hope you had many wonderful memories, events and celebrations to be thankful for this year! We look forward to entering the new year and hope it will bring us lots of joy, prosperity and good health! Please remember that the Schenectady Senior Center follows the Schenectady City School District schedule, so if they close school, the Senior Center will also be closed that day. However, we will still be open in the case of any school delays, and the Senior Center parking lot will be plowed. Please keep in mind with the cold weather still upon us, to be careful and watch for black ice.

December is a busy month as we celebrate Hanukkah, Christmas and New Years! The fall session of "MVP Chair Moves" will end on **December 6th**. We will celebrate the Holiday season on **December 20th** with an end of year Holiday Bash. Please note that the Senior Center will be *CLOSED* **December 25th & 27th**, and **January 1st & 3rd**. We hope you take these two weeks to spend time with family and friends and enjoy all the fun festivities that the holidays bring!

Walmart Vision Services and Kingsway Home Care Blood Pressure Clinic will both be here this month on December 18th.

We wish you Happy Holidays and a wonderful New Year! Deb Berner and Rachael Pidgeon

1748 State Street Schenectady, NY 12304 ~ schenectadyseniorcenter@gmail.com https://www.cityofschenectady.com/559/Schenectady-Senior-Center ~ (518) 598-2056

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Woodlawn Neighborhood Association

MEETING SCHEDULE ~ 2018

General Neighborhood Association meeting

4th Wednesday of each month - 7 PM @ Hibernian Hall (1748 State Street) (No general meeting in August/December)

Woodlawn Park & Woodlawn Preserve committee meetings 4th Wednesday of each month - 6 PM @ Hibernian Hall (1748 State Street)

Officers:

Vice President - Lou Grasso (374-1623) President - Ed Kosiur (377-8810) **Treasurer - Chad Putman** (225-0957) Secretary - Rose Harrell (346-4665)

District Vice Presidents:

East: Cole Denning (227-4085) West: Jim LaPointe (377-2092)

Committee Chairpersons:

Newsletter & Woodlawn Park - Spero Zoulas (331-0929)

Newsletter Ads - Cole Denning (227-4085)

Woodlawn Preserve - Janet Given (210-5439)

Social/Refreshment - Rita Figler

Welcoming - Camy Wyckoff (370-5311)

If you have any suggestions pertaining to any of these officers or committees, please call or mail suggestions to:

> **Woodlawn Neighborhood Association** 2506 Albany Street, Schenectady, NY 12304

Go to www.woodlawnneighborhood.org to get the latest information on Woodlawn Meetings, Events & Happenings.



Public Safety Notice In case of emergency, call 911...

Officer Dane Flavin patrols Woodlawn from 4 pm to Midnight. Officer Brandon Kietlinski patrols during the day.

Please email non-emergency questions/concerns to Officer Flavin at dflavin@schenectadvpd.com

Non-Emergency phone calls: 630-0911

www.schenectadypd.com

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Recently, we met with the City Engineering Department and the Albany Pine Bush Preserve Commission to discuss implementation of Phase II of the Schenectady Pine Barrens Preserve Plan. Phase I was the survey and boundary marking. Phase II is the Pitch Pine-Scrub Oak Barrens and Karner Blue Butterfly Habitat Restoration that will occur over a period of about 5 years in the Woodlawn Preserve section of the Schenectady Pine Barrens Preserve.

As a review, the NYS DEC has long considered the Albany Pine Bush area 'and a small portion of eastern Schenectady County to support a rare and endangered inland Pine Barrens ecosystem'. In both the 2009 and 2016 DEC Open Space Conservation Plans, the Region 4 Advisory Committee 'encourages conservation efforts directed at areas of existing and restorable Pine Bush habitat not included with the area designated by the Albany Pine Bush Commission', To review the Open Space Plan and its recommendations visit https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/98720.html

The Niskayuna Open Space Plan of 2013 states "In 2009, Schenectady County deeded 24 acres of parkland to Niskayuna adjacent to the 170 acre Woodlawn Pine Barrens-Wetland complex; a mix of woodland and wetland areas. The Niskayuna parcel located within a NYS regulated wetland was rezoned to Land Conservation and the town board removed the 'paper streets' lying within it. This land transfer was considered an important step in linking the Woodlawn Preserve and the Albany Pine Bush Preserve. It provides a potential passive inter-municipal recreation opportunity, as the wetland extends into both the City of Schenectady and the Town of Colonie." To review the Niskayuna Open Space Plan visit https://niskayuna.org/sites/niskayuna/files/uploads/2013 comp plan final 2.pdf

It is in the spirit of these recommendations that the Schenectady Pine Barrens Preserve was designated, an area that includes the Woodlawn Preserve (118.6 acres), Niskayuna Sanford Park (26.87 acres), and the unnamed area in Rotterdam (32.27 acres) for a total area of 177.74 acres (per the recent survey).

The Habitat Restoration Project will commence in phases. The first phase will involve assessment of the area on the high dune portion of the Preserve to determine which trees need to be thinned and how many invasive plants or trees may need to be removed. If all goes well, the work may commence in the winter of 2020. Later phases will include restoration of native plants and finally reintroduction of the Karner Blue Butterfly.

In June of 2017 the Albany Pine Bush Commission was proud to announce that after 25 years of being federally listed as endangered, the Albany Pine Bush population of the Karner blue Butterfly has exceeded recovery goals for the local population, which brings the butterfly one step closer to recovery in New York State. It is exciting to think that in the near future we will finally be a part of that recovery effort.

If you see or hear anything unusual going on in the Preserve, including vandalism, please call the Schenectady Police non-emergency number at 518-630-0911; or email non-emergency information or questions to Patrolman Dane Flavin at dflavin@schenectadypd.com. The DEC can be reached at 1-877-457-5680. DEC Forest Ranger Dave Nally has also been helpful and can be reached at 518-424-7805 or 518 -408-5850. You can also email him David.nally@dec.ny.gov.

Enjoy the cooler weather, and hope to see you in the Preserve. Janet Chen, Chair ~ Friends of the Woodlawn Preserve 518-210-5439 ~ Friendswp@gmail.com



Shopping and Storing Tips to Reduce Wasted Food

A growing proportion of our disposed refuse is attributable to wasted food. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that, in 2015, 37 million tons of food wastes were disposed, while only about 2 million tons were instead composted. These materials make up approximately 22 percent of discarded municipal solid waste in the US.

While increased diversion by recovery (e.g. donation to others, like the food insecure), composting, and other processes - both at home or established facilities - can substantially help address these concerns, source reduction of the amount of excess, scrapped, or spoiled food discards should also play a major part. It is, in fact, the top strategy of EPA's Food Recovery Hierarchy:



We know that reducing wasted food benefits the economy, community, and sustainable efforts. But what can we do to reduce this waste, save money, and reduce its extra burden on our natural resources? One thing we can focus on is reducing the food we waste in our own homes and there are a number of ways that we can do this:

A major strategy that we can undertake is to improve two practices tasks in which nearly all of us engage quite frequently: **shopping** for our foods, and then **storing** them.

Shopping

- -Intently try to buy only as much as you need.
- -Make a list of items that you need to buy and try to stick to it (reducing impulse-buying)
- -Minimize bulk buying, as experts say it leads to more food waste.
- -Make more frequent (hopefully quicker) trips to grocery stores.
- -Try to use up the food you purchased during your last grocery trip before buying more.

Storage of Perishables (proper storage can greatly reduce food spoilage-some examples follow)

- -Learn which (& when) fresh vegetables are best refrigerated, frozen, and which are not-For example, potatoes, tomatoes, garlic, cucumbers, and onions should be kept room temperature (not refrigerated)
- -Separate foods that produce ethylene gas from those that do not (ethylene promotes ripening that could lead to spoilage)-

<u>Ethylene-producing foods:</u> Bananas, Avocados, Tomatoes, Cantaloupes, Peaches, Pears, Green Onions

Ethylene-sensitive foods: Potatoes, Apples, Leafy greens, Berries, Peppers

For more tips on reducing wasted food, click the following link for the website of the Northeast Recycling Council (NERC):

https://nerc.org/documents/Organics/Reduce%20Wasted%20Food%20-%20Tip%20Sheet%20for%20Residents Final.pdf

Additional website sources:

Team Member

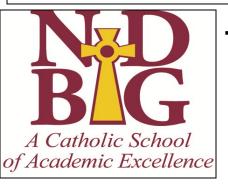
https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food https://www.healthline.com/nutrition/reduce-food-waste

Patrick Golden, ECOS Recycling Committee Member & SCEAC Recycling

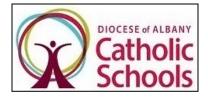


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Notable Days in November & December...

November

4th - Daylight Savings (Fall Back) 6th - Election Day 11th - Veterans Day

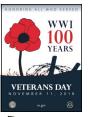
15th - Great American Smokeout Day 22nd - Thanksgiving Day

December

3rd - Chanukah (8 days) 7th - Pearl Harbor Day 21st - Winter Solstice

25th - Christmas Day

31st - New Year's Eve











REUSF RECYCLE

2018 **WASTE COLLECTION DATES WOODLAWN**

District #1

District #2 Woodlawn—Central Park Crosstown to Brandywine

November 8, 16, 27 December 4, 11, 18, 26 January, 2019 Dates in next issue **November** 1, 9, 19, 28 December 5, 12, 19, 27 January, 2019

Dates in next issue

Download your district's full-year schedule at: citvofschenectady.com/531/Waste-Collection-Schedules







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Contacting the Board of Education

Correspondence to board members can be directed to the clerk of the board as follows:

Martha Morris, Clerk of the Board Schenectady City School District 108 Education Drive; Schenectady, NY 12303 Phone: 518-370-8100 Ext. 40105



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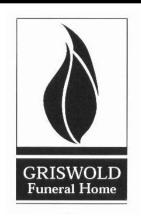




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Take a Look "in Cider" Children's Home

We'd like to invite you to our 2018 fall open house! Join us for dinner and to learn about our upcoming improvements and changes to the Children's Home.

Wednesday, October 3 122 Park Avenue Dinner served at 5:30 p.m. Remarks at 6:00 p.m.

Kindly RSVP to Communications@northernrivers.org by Friday, September 29.



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Holiday Craft and Vendor Fair

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Saturday, December 1, 2018 10 AM to 3 PM

Sponsored by the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians (LAOH)

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Annual Fall Rake Day...Forward Looking Momentum...

With the close of another season soon approaching, our committee is gearing up to ready the park for the winter months. This means our **Annual Fall Rake Day** is coming up, and we'll need your help raking up leaves and storing things inside. We'll need volunteers to help us on **Saturday, November 10th starting at 9 am.** We'll go until 2 pm, but if many hands help make the load lighter, we could finish things sooner. We hope you can join us. Our rain date will be Sunday, November 11th.



Some exciting things are on tap for Spring, 2019. While we prepare for our annual garage sale - we are taking donations year round, so please contact us if you have household items you'd like to donate - we will finalize the purchase of

new play panels, totaling \$4,573. We have made the decision on the specific pieces (*pictured above*) - three of them to include a *Xylophone panel*, a *Chime panel and a Tic-Tac-Toe panel* for kids of all ages to enjoy!

If you haven't heard, the City of Schenectady and the Schenectady Foundation have partnered to offer the innovative *Thriving Neighborhoods Challenge*. This initiative asks neighborhoods to present ideas for improving their communities. The program will offer \$250,000 in aid to neighborhoods to help propel them forward in making their ideas a reality. With this opportunity, our committee has presented a *proposal to include a* Spray Pad Area at the park, which was originally envisioned in our park's master concept plan in 2012. Keep your fingers crossed! We'll learn if our proposal moves forward to the next round in November, and if approved, could come to fruition in 2019!

We will postpone the installations of the Art Mural and Scavenger Hunt Game until the Spring season. Given the cold weather and limited time to fully appreciate the art and play the game, we've decided to hold off on these exciting additions until early 2019.

Looking Ahead: Over the winter months, members of our committee will be planning for next year; targeting our efforts at continued park enhancements, preparation for our annual garage sale bonanza and other park events, and initiating the final pieces of the park's comprehensive redevelopment plannamely the restoration of the park building into a community space with infrastructure in place to add a spray pad for the summer months. While these final pieces will take a few years to complete, we are inspired by what has been accomplished thus far in our seven years.

Keep your eyes open on our facebook page (WoodlawnParkSNY) for upcoming events and news. If you would like to join our committee's efforts, we are always looking for help. Message us on our facebook page or email WoodlawnPark411@gmail.com to offer your support.

Once again...thank you so much for your continued support, Spero Zoulas - Chair of the Woodlawn Park Redevelopment Committee

f/WoodlawnParkSNY



Life Enrichment Activities ~ November & December

November

- *Thursday, the 1st*: 10:30 am MVP "Chair Moves"/Bingo/Cards/Dominos; 11 am Rummikub/Puzzles/"Apples to Apples"; 1 pm Trivia/Scrabble/Uno
- *Tuesday, the 6th*: 10:30 am Bingo/Dominos/Rummikub/Wii Bowling; 10:30 am **Walmart Vision Services;** 1 pm Trivia/Pokeno/Scrabble
- *Thursday, the 8th*: 10:30 am MVP "Chair Moves"/Bingo/Dominos; 11 am Rummi-kub/Puzzles/"Apples to Apples"; 11:30 am Veterans Day Ceremony; 1 pm Trivia/Scrabble/Uno
- *Tuesday, the 13th*: 10:30 am Bingo/Cards/Rummikub/Wii Bowling; 11 am Making *Thanksgiving* Cards w/ Mary Jane; 1 pm Puzzles/Pokeno/Scrabble
- *Thursday, the 15th*: 10:30 am MVP "Chair Moves"/Dominos/Bingo; 11 am Puzzles/Uno/"Apples To Apples"; 12 pm *Thanksgiving Lunch*; 1 pm Cards/Pokeno/Scrabble
- Tuesday & Thursday, the 20th & 22nd: Holiday Closure Happy Thanksgiving!
- Tuesday, the 27th: 10:30 am Bingo/Cards/Rummikub/Dominos; 11 am Pumpkin-Apple Waffle Cooking Demo w/ Jeanne Pennypacker; 11:15 am Kingsway Home Care Blood Pressure Clinic; 1 pm Cards/Pokeno/Scrabble
- *Thursday, the 29th*: 10:30 am MVP "Chair Moves"/Puzzles/Dominos/Bingo; 11 am Cards/Rummikub/"Apples To Apples"; 1 pm Monthly Birthday Bash

December

- *Tuesday, the 4th*: 10:30 am Bingo/Dominos/Rummikub; 10:30 am Cards/'Apples To Apples''/Wii Bowling; 1 pm Trivia/Pokeno/Scrabble
- *Thursday, the 6th*: 10:30 am **MVP "Chair Moves"**/Bingo/Cards/Dominos; 11 am Rummikub/Puzzles/"Apples to Apples"; 1 pm Trivia/Scrabble/Uno
- *Tuesday, the 11th*: 10:30 am Bingo/Dominos/Rummikub; 10:30 am Cards/"Apples To Apples"/Wii Bowling; 11 am Making *Christmas* cards w/ Mary Jane; 1 pm Trivia/Pokeno/Scrabble
- *Thursday, the 13th*: 10:30 am Bingo/Dominos/Cards; 11 am Rummikub/ Puzzles/"Apples to Apples"; 1 pm Trivia/Scrabble/Uno
- Tuesday, the 18th: 10:30 am Bingo/Rummikub/Wii Bowling; 10:30 am Walmart Vision Services; 11:15 am Kingsway Home Care Blood Pressure Clinic; 1 pm Puzzles/Pokeno/Scrabble
- *Thursday, the 20th: * End of Year Holiday Bash ** 10:30 am Dominos/Bingo/ Rummikub; 11 am - Puzzles/Uno/"Apples To Apples"; 1 pm - **Monthly Birthday Bash**
- Tuesday & Thursday, the 25th & 27th: Closed for the Holidays Seasons Greetings!
- Thursday & Thursday, January 1st & 3rd: Close for the Holidays

~ Lunch is always served at 12 Noon ~

Menu available at: http://cityofschenectady.com/561/Newsletters
Free Membership!!

Fall Rake Day at Woodlawn Park Saturday, November 10th - Starts @ 9 AM



Join us for this Annual Community Volunteer Day \sim 9 am - 2 pm

Come to park, grab a rake and close out the year helping us clear leaves

Hot cocoa, coffee, water, snacks and pizza at noon provided

Rakes and work gloves provided

RAIN DATE: Sunday, November 11th - 9 AM

Woodlawn Park is located on Ricci Avenue at Kings Road intersection



Woodlawn Park – a committee of the Woodlawn Neighborhood Association, a 501(c)(4) organization



~ Thankful for a Great Year ~

As another year comes to a close, we thank all those who work to make Woodlawn a great place to live!

