Want to make the rest of your life... the best of your life?





Come home to Kingsway.

The independent living apartments at Kingsway Village offer a carefree, comfortable lifestyle.

- . No Entrance Fee or Buy-In. Ask about our Innovative M&T Trust Investment
- Weekly Housekeeping with Linen Service
- Four Unique Dining Venues, including Al Fresco Dining (Seasonal)
- Wellness and Fitness Programs





Kingsway Community

A Full Continuum of Care in the Family Tradition

5000 Queen Philomena Blvd., Schenectady, NY 12304 518.393.8800 • kingswaycommunity.com











May/June ~ 2016

WHAT'S INSIDE?

President's Message ~ Woodlawn Park The Golden Ear ~ Woodlawn Preserve The Westside Story ~ Household Hints/Tips Schenectady Recycles! Advertisements & More...



Permits available at:

Sunoco Gas Mart - Albany St. Grasso Barber Shop - Albany St.



Woodlawn Neighborhood Meetings - 4th Wednesday of the month 7 PM at Hibernian Hall

FREE PUBLICATION **Recycle ~ Share With Your Neighbors**

Please Patronize Our Advertisers

A Publication of

The Woodlawn Neighborhood Association www.woodlawnneighborhood.org

Where's The Newsletter?

Get your FREE copy of The Woodlawn Connection at the following locations:

Albany Street Sunoco Beth Ann Kayser, CPA Blue Ribbon Restaurant Bumpy's Polar Freeze Calvary Tabernacle Church Camillo's Bistro Dolce Vita Fantastic Sam's Gallo's Florist G & M Auto Grasso's Barber Shop Griswold Funeral Home **H&V** Collision Center Hibernian Hall King Cork Kingsway Community Lorenzo's Italian Cafe

Marotta's Pizza Mavis Tire Mina's Mohawk Progressive FCU **New Life Ministries** Plaines Roc's Hairstyling Serendipity St. Paul the Apostle Church Stanford United Methodist Church Starbucks Steve's Barber Shop Subway Shop Uncle Sam's Candy Woodlawn T. Value Hardware Woodlawn Library Woodlawn Park



Lyle's Hoagies

PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS!



Also available online at www.woodlawnneighborhood.org





FAMILY RESTAURANT

"Home of the award winning Blue Ribbon Cheesecake"

1801 State Street Phone: (518) 393-2600 Schenectady, NY 12304 Fax: (518) 393-4313 Www.BlueRibbonRestaurant.com

We are your Woodlawn service club, helping our Woodlawn neighbors and beyond. Won't you join us? Come anytime!



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

The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise.



Nursery to 8th Grade Co-ed, Independent School

Offering Summer Camp & Literacy Programs

Open to the public June 20 - September 1

Now Enrolling for Fall 2016

518-370-0366 www.brownschool.org





REFACE your Existing Cabinets

and SAVE 50% * Compared to new cabinets

CUSTOM MADE HARDWOOD DOORS • any Style • any Color Solid Surface • CUSTOM COUNTER TOPS • Laminate

High Bridge Residents SAVE \$500 on Spring & Summer Complete Kitchen Installs



We Also Install Replacement Windows & Doors with Lifetime Warranties! Priced for every Budget!



Ray Bonesteel Proprietor

Call Today For FREE Estimate!

382-1441 email: rbones44@nycap.rr.com

Fully Insured

Ralph Mason Construction

Major Credit Cards Accepted

A Message From Neighborhood Association President:





Please mark your calendar for our **Annual Woodlawn Garage Sale**, scheduled for the weekend of **May 14 & 15**. Last year was one of our largest events ever with nearly 200 homes participating! Permits can be purchased at the **Sunoco Gas/Food Mart on 2501 Albany Street or at Grasso's Barber Shop on 2506 Albany Street. The cost of the permit is \$10.00**. Remember, you must have a permit issued by the Woodlawn Neighborhood Association in order to participate in this very popular event.



Reminder to vote for the School Budget & Board of Education members Tuesday, May 17 Polls are open from 12 noon - 9 PM

Congratulations to our local High School and College graduates from the Woodlawn community. For our sons, daughters, nieces, nephews and grandchildren best wishes and success as you move forward!



In celebration of June as National Homeownership Month, the City of Schenectady will host its annual HOMES Fair on Sunday, June 26 from 10 AM—2 PM.



The fair will feature important services and opportunities to prospective homebuyers throughout our community and will run concurrent with the Sunday Green Market just outside the doors of City Hall. Talk with lenders, home inspectors, realtors and more. Onsite pre-qualification for mortgage financing! Contractor booth for home repair questions. For more information call Matt Smith at (518) 382-5199 ext. 5393.

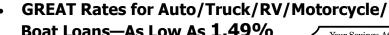
Reminder, our association meetings are now on the fourth Wednesday of each month starting at 7 PM. At our "new" location—Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall, 1748 State Street.

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

Mohawk Progressive Federal Credit Union 1760 State Street, Schenectady www.mohawkprogressivefcu.com (518) 372-0828

- NO FEE Checking
- FREE Online Banking & Electronic Bill Pay
- VISA® Credit and ATM/Debit Cards
- FULL Service Mortgage Department
- COMPETITIVE Home Equity Loan Rates



- FULL Family Membership
- FRIENDLY Personalized Service

Your Savings At The Credit Union Are Federally Insured To At Least \$250.000

And Much More...

Looking To Lower Your Monthly Payments?

Check With Us To See If We Can Help
With A Consolidation Loan. We May Also
Be Able To Lower Your Vehicle Loan
Payments. Ask Us About Refinancing.

Mohawk Progressive Federal Credit Union "Where You Are More Than Just A Bank Account Number.....You're A Member!"

All are welcome.

Stop by or call to find out about opening your account today!





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



Garage sale permits are now on sale and can be purchased at the Sunoco Station at 2505 Albany Street. They're open 24 hours a day/7 days a week. Also, you may purchase them at Grasso's Barber Shop, 2506 Albany Street and they're open mornings from $7:30-12:00\,\mathrm{pm}$. Everyone having a garage sale must have a permit. The cost is \$10.00, and you must display it on the front of your house during the garage sale. There'll be people checking to make sure you have your permit. If you do not have one, the price will be \$20.00.

The Woodlawn Preserve received a \$50,000 check from Assemblyman Steck to improve the preserve and to make it exciting for people who go there, whether you bird watch, fish or hike. Also, Woodlawn Park has received two checks, one for \$10,000 from the Wright Foundations and \$15,000 from an anonymous donor who grew up in Woodlawn and played in Woodlawn Park as a kid. The money will be used to resurface the basketball court, put up a new fence along the court and to establish exercise equipment for kids, adolescents and seniors. Thank you to the people who believe in Woodlawn.

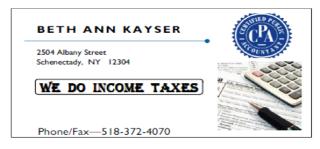
Also, Woodlawn businesses have purchased twenty-nine banners that will be installed along State Street from Fehr Avenue to Balltown Road. The price for a banner is \$200 and you can advertise your business. They will be up for approximately 5 years. This comes to \$40/year to advertise your business along State Street. For more information, call Lou Grasso at 346-6775.

Rumor also has it that the Schenectady County Officials are looking at purchasing the old IHOP Restaurant on State Street to potentially move the Schenectady County DMV to Woodlawn. Super great idea! Way to go county officials!

Also, rumor has it that Blue Ribbon Restaurant is buying Maurice's Restaurant on upper State Street and will convert it to a full-time bakery. The stuff they produce is great and their cheesecakes are to die for! They have won many awards in the area for their cheesecake.

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

John Rose



WOODLAWN – The West Side Story By Marcel

Once again, greetings from Woodlawn West. Some time back, late 2014, I wrote about the formation of the Rotterdam Neighborhood Watch program. At that time, the Rotterdam residents were in an uproar over what they felt to be an increase in crime. Their first meeting drew well over 100 concerned and vocal people. My interest was whether such a program was warranted in Woodlawn and whether it would be sustainable. Since well over a year has passed, I inquired as to the program's success. As such, I spoke with Fred Lee, President of Schenectady Neighborhood Association - the umbrella group for all of the Schenectady neighborhood watch programs. Fred was careful with his response and so the answer is difficult to gauge.

The program continues to exist. Fred indicated that there are over 3,000 members of the Rotterdam Watch FaceBook page. However, the number of active watch people is less than he would like. This is what I suspected might happen when a majority of folks have an initial fervor with interest that wanes over time. Fred went on to extol the virtues of the neighborhood watch program.

Some people believe that Neighborhood watch consists of people armed with baseball bats patrolling their neighborhoods. Fred indicated that the Neighborhood Watch program teaches basic skills, including the avoidance of confrontation, which enables folks to report suspicious activity in the hopes of preventing crime. One of the basic skill sets taught is that of the Window Watcher - people observing without leaving their home.

For additional information, there is a Schenectady Neighborhood Watch/ Schenectady Police meeting the first Tuesday of each month at City Hall in room 209 starting at 7pm.

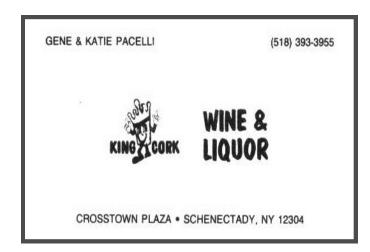
Till next time...

ANNUAL WOODLAWN PARK GARAGE SALE EVENT IN THE PARK!! Donate your unwanted household items for a great cause... Donation Drop-Off Days at Woodlawn Park Friday, May 6th (5:30-7:30 pm) & Saturday, May 7th (10am - 2pm) Garage Sale Days at Woodlawn Park Saturday - Sunday, May 16th & 17th Beginning @ 9 AM both days









Grasso's Barber Shop

2506 Albany Street / Corner of Route 7 346-6775

\$15.00 Haircut \$8.00 Edge Up

Store Hours:

Tuesday - Saturday 7:30 AM - 12:00 PM







Does your street or block need a Recycling Spring Tonic?

Contact schenectadyrecycles@gmail.com

Ocean Plastics Pollution Problems (excerpts from a paper by Graham Kilpatrick, a Union College student intern for ECOS)

"Every day we use many different types of plastics for various tasks. Most of the plastics we use are disposable and intended for one use only. When we recycle these disposable plastics, we make a small but meaningful difference in the battle against ocean pollution.

Most ocean plastic pollution originates from land. Whether plastic debris is blown by winds or dumped off barges, around 80 percent of it comes from land.

The best way we can make a difference is by trying to ensure that the plastic does not reach the sea. Once plastic reaches the sea it can take anywhere from 500-1,000 years for plastic to degrade.

Individuals can make a difference by altering basic routines.

People from New York State who are land-locked may relate less to the ocean plastics pollution issue. But studies have shown that plastic pollution in the Great Lakes may be just as bad if not worse than ocean pollutions. Samples collected from Lake Erie showed that the waters contained large amounts of plastic particles. 85% of these particles were smaller than two-tenths of an inch, and much of that was microscopic.

If ingested, the tiny plastic particles can cause harm to both fish and birds. Research is in the early stages of determining whether or not fish could pass on substances to human consumers. Meanwhile, spreading the word about plastic recycling and increasing individual recycling efforts are great ways to reduce the impact from ocean and lake plastic pollution."

Happy Spring, Woodlawn!

Roberta Farrell, for ECOS: The Environmental Clearinghouse



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

Officer Tim Higgins patrols the Woodlawn neighborhood from 4 pm to Midnight

Please email non-emergency questions/concerns to Office Higgins at thiggins@schenectadypd.com

Woodlawn Neighborhood Association

Officers:

President	Ed Kosiur	377-8810
Vice President	Lou Grasso	374-1623
Treasurer	Ann Sturges	377-6678
Recording Secretary	Rose Harrell	346-4665

District Vice Presidents:

East District	Terry VanValkenburgh	370-5803
West District	Jim LaPointe	377-2092

Committee Chairpersons:

Newsletter / Woodlawn Park	Spero Zoulas	331-0929
Newsletter Ads	Cole Denning	227-4085
Woodlawn Preserve	Janet Chen	210-5439
Social/Refreshment	Mary Roy	374-2821
Welcoming	Camy Wyckoff	370-5311

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

Woodlawn Neighborhood Association 2506 Albany Street, Schenectady, NY 12304

MEETING SCHEDULE ~ 2016

General Neighborhood Association meeting - 4th Wednesday of every month at 7 PM @ the Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall, 1748 State Street. (No general meeting in Aug/Dec/Jan)

Woodlawn Park & Woodlawn Preserve committee meetings - 4th Wednesday of every month @ Hibernian Hall (1748 State Street). *Meetings start at 6 PM.*

www.woodlawnneighborhood.org

www.bumpyspolarfreeze.net



2013 State St. Schenectady, New York 12304







Recognized leader of dance training in the Capital District

Offering a wide variety of dance styles

Tap ~ Jazz ~ Ballet ~ Pre-School ~ Creative Dance

We offer a wide variety of dance styles that are designed to meet each student's competency level. Our teachers create original routines for each class that are rewarding and challenging for each student to perform.

Brochures and Registration Forms available from the Studio.

1765 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12304 Telephone: 393-7827 e-mail: orlandodance1765@gmail.com

Woodlawn Preserve

Every two months that we report here, it seems we make progress. These last two months were the most progressive leaps of all! Here is the headline in a recent press release:

Assemblymember Steck secures \$50,000 for Woodlawn Preserve in Schenectady!

Phil Steck announced that he secured \$50,000 for the support of the **Woodlawn Preserve** portion of the Pine Bush habitat that the city of Schenectady owns. The funds, which are part of a larger State investment into the **Albany Pine Bush Preserve**, will help protect natural resources and connect Capital Region residents with the area's unique environmental surroundings.

The **Woodlawn Preserve** and the **Pine Bush Preserve** are adjoining parts of this invaluable and unique habitat. Assemblyman Steck encouraged the development of a cooperative agreement between the city, the APBPC, and the Friends of the Woodlawn Preserve, recognizing that the future of the Woodlawn preserve would be enhanced by its affiliation with the Pine Bush, and has now secured the funds necessary to begin fully implementing the cooperative agreement.

"I want to begin by extending our thanks not only to to **Phil Steck** for appropriating the money for the protection of the Woodlawn Preserve, but also to **Gary McCarthy** for realizing the need and facilitating the path to our goals" said Janet Chen, Chair of Friends of the Woodlawn Preserve. "This long neglected parcel in the city of Schenectady is in dire need of attention, as it has never been professionally managed. Our goal is to have this pine barren fragment restored and open to the public for passive recreational and educational opportunities. We deeply appreciate the perseverance that Assemblyman Steck and Mayor McCarthy have demonstrated over the past few years in helping us to achieve this goal."

Our spring events schedule starts with Spring Clean Up Day on May 7th from 10am until 4 pm, in conjunction with the I Love Schenectady Parks Day. General clean up, trail maintenance, nature hikes, pizza and soft drinks are all on the agenda. We hope to see many Friends and neighbors join us in the effort to keep the Preserve a pristine nature sanctuary. Also join us on May 14th at the Albany Pine Bush Lupine Fest, as well as the Woodlawn Neighborhood Garage Sale on May 14th – 15th.

As always, if you see or hear anything unusual going on in the Preserve call the Schenectady Police non-emergency number at 630-0911. You can also email your non-emergency questions or concerns to Officer Tim Higgins (he patrols the Woodlawn neighborhood from 4-11) at thiggins@schenectadypd.com. The DEC can be reached at 1-877-457-5680 or call directly to our Region #4 reps Chris Valenty and Brian Wilson at 357-2047.

Janet Chen 210-5439



Creative Solutions for some household conundrums...



Handy Hint #1 - "Cleaning those pesky vertical blinds" Tongs anyone? Wrap each side with an old sock and fasten with rubber band. Voila! Happy dusting.



Handy Hint #2 - "For the life of bananas!"

Bananas always seem to brown too fast. The solution? Wrap the stems with some cling wrap. See if it's worth the try!



Handy Hint #3 - "Kid friendly sink"

Kids can't reach the sink? Help them get a leg up on it. Simply cut up an old soap bottle, attach it to the nozzle and presto! A clean flow of water for your munchkins!

Beautiful Home Drapes & Accessories Specializing in Slipcovers

Also Custom Made:

- Pillows & Home Accessories
- Cushions / Indoor & Outdoor
- Window Seats
- Window Treatments and more

Kathryn Brooks (518) 347-1310

39 Garfield Avenue Schenectady, N.Y. 12304

beautifulhomedrapes@gmail.com Facebook: BeautifulHomeDrapes

Notre Dame-Bishop Gibbons School

The 42 graduating seniors from the Class of 2014 earned over \$5.1 million in Scholarships and Grants



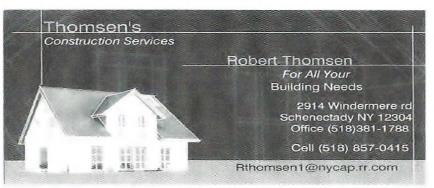
Tours available daily

8:00am - 2:30pm call for an appointment

2600 Albany Street, Schenectady, NY (518) 393-3131 Visit us on the web: www.nd-bg.org



Thomsen's Residential Services



Home Renovation and New Construction Serving the Capital District for over 30 yrs Affordable, Dependable & Insured

Robert Thomsen

(518)381-1788

WRIGHT AND BARNES INVESTMENTS

LYNN WRIGHT BARNES, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™, PRACTIONER

- ✓ RETIREMENT & ESTATE PLANNING
 - ✓ MUTUAL FUNDS
- ✓ STOCK AND BOND EXECUTION(minimum order required)
 - ✓ IRAS, BOTH ROTH & TRADITIONAL
 - ✓ ALL TYPES OF BUSINESS PENSION PLANS
- ✓ PERSONAL INSURANCE, INCLUDING LONG TERM HEALTH CARE

INVESTIGATE BEFORE YOU INVEST!

SECURITIES OFFERED THROUGH NEXT FINANCIAL GROUP, INC. member FINRA/SIPC Wright & Barnes is not an affiliate of NEXT Financial Group, Inc. Neither NEXT Financial Group, Inc, nor its representatives offer legal advice. Please consult your legal professional before taking any action

518-372-5500

650 Franklin St, #304, Schenectady, NY 12305









F. Michael Boehne

Licensed Real Estate Salesperson eCertified.

8 Airline Drive, Suite 104 Albany, NY 12205 Bus 518-464-0870 x2201 Fax 518-464-0876 Cell 518-378-6072 mboehne@bhhsblake.com



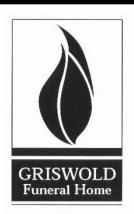


COMMERCIAL DIVISION





A member of the franchise system of BHH Affiliates, LLC.



Terry Van Valkenburgh Funeral Director

GRISWOLD FUNERAL HOME

1867 State Street Schenectady, NY 12304

(518) 374-6188



1566 State St Schenectady NY 12304 Phone: 518-374-3376 Fax: 518-374-5052 www.zongrone.com

Insurance – Financial Services

"...Who do I turn to?" Let your independent Agent shop for you

Place your Auto, Home, Business or Life Insurance with a financially sound insurance company.

Call us for a free policy review.

Serving the Capital District for over 50 years!

Woodlawn Park

Annual Garage Sale Extravaganza ~ Volunteer Days ~ Major Funding Secured

With spring now in full effect, it's been a great sight to see many more families bringing in their little ones to visit the park and take advantage of the new playground. The park has seen a great deal of use in the new toddler and kid playing areas unlike anytime prior. It's been a great boom to the park's presence in our community!

As we move forward, we will be working hard to continue the park's renaissance. It is with great pleasure to announce that our committee has *secured two grants of \$10,000 each and a private donation of \$15,000* from a former Woodlawn Park neighborhood child of the 60's who wishes to remain anonymous. The grants have been secured through *The Carlilian Foundation and The Wright Foundation*. Thank you to these organizations! We'd also like to thank Janet Given for allowing our committee to use The Friend's of the Woodlawn Preserve's 510c3 status to act as our fiscal agent to secure the grants. These monies, along with our fundraised monies, will finance our latest major redevelopment coming to the park - namely the repaving of the basketball court, replacement of the existing fencing along that area w/ the addition of a privacy screen, the installation of wheelchair access ramps into the park's common area and the addition of new exercise stations to compliment the recreational offerings to our community. This work will be coming soon once the city completes its assessment and preparations.

Many thanks to those who came out to help at our annual Spring cleanup on April 30th! Volunteers raked, swept and cleared brush, as well as painted and stained picnic tables, benches and our new trash and recycling housing units. A big thank you to Steve Harris for building these units which will add a nice look to the park. Fun note: the units were constructed with reclaimed wood from the building's old girls' changing wing and stalls. We'll also be working in the park on Saturday, May 7th while preparing for our annual garages sale. Please come out to volunteer as we continue sprucing up the park.

Make sure to think of the park if you would like to *donate some household items* for our Annual Garage Sale to benefit the Park. Our donation drop-off days will be at the park Friday and Saturday, May 6th (5:30-7:30 pm) & 7th (10 am - 2 pm). So be sure to think of us that weekend and, of course, stop by for the sale at the park on May 14th & 15th. And thank you to Mr. Mark's Tents for donating a huge tent. If you ever want to rent a tent at a great price, check out his business at: mrmarkstents.com.

We'd like to recognize one our own park volunteers and entrepreneur, Rennie Fountain. Rennie has been helping us with the park and preserve for many years and most recently was a vital player at our playground build day this past fall. In addition to helping our community, Rennie also provides professional tree cutting and trimming services. You can reach out to him if you would like to inquire about his services at (518) 951-8323.

Would you like to sign up for our Adopt-A-Park program or volunteer at one of our cleanup or event days? Email us at WoodlawnPark411@gmail.com.

Once again...thank you so much for your continued support,

Spero Zoulas - Chair of Woodlawn Park Redevelopment Committee

Facebook: WoodlawnParkSNY

Notable Days for May & June...

May

6 - National Teacher's Day 8 - Mother's Day & VE Day, WWII 13 - Friday the 13th

20 - Armed Forces Day

30 - Memorial Day

6 - D Day, WWII & Ramadan begins 14 - Flag Day 19 - Father's Day

June

20 - Summer Solstice (Longest day of the year!)







2016 WASTE COLLECTION DATES WOODLAWN

Woodlawn—Central Park	Crosstown to Brandywine
May	May
6, 13, 20, 27	2, 9, 16, 23, 31
June	June
6, 13, 20, 27	7, 14, 21, 28
July	July
5, 12, 19, 26	6, 13, 20, 27







NEWSLETTER ADS & ARTICLES



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PLACE AN AD OR SUBMIT INFORMATION, PLEASE EMAIL:

Cwdenning@hotmail.com

Next deadline is June 20, 2016

227-4085 for more info