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June/July 2014

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*2nd Wednesday of each month*

*7 PM*

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A Publication of

***The Woodlawn Neighborhood Association***

[www.woodlawnneighborhood.org](http://www.woodlawnneighborhood.org)

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## Where's The Newsletter?

In the months of June and July a **FREE** copy of *The Woodlawn Connection* will be available at the following locations:

Albany Street Sunoco	Marotta Pizza
Beth Ann Kayser, CPA	Maurice's Sandwich Shop
Blue Ribbon Restaurant	Mavis Tire
Calvary Tabernacle Church	Mings
Camillo's Bistro	Mohawk Progressive FCU
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G & M Auto	Subway Shop
Grasso's Barber Shop	Sun Fungs
Griswold Funeral Home	Sunoco Food/Gas Mart
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*...And More By The Minute!*

We are your Woodlawn service club,  
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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

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

## WOODLAWN – The West Side Story By Marcel

I continue to get questions regarding whether the area I live in is Woodlawn. The western area of Woodlawn is bounded by Fehr Avenue to Route 7 and State Street to Watt Street. Adding to the confusion is that city services define us differently. I spoke to a police officer one day regarding police coverage. I was told that Woodlawn has an assigned day time police officer. However, when I further explained where I lived, the officer replied that was not Woodlawn. The officer stated that our area is covered by Central State Street police dispatch (Note that the police coverage phone number listed in our newsletter is for Woodlawn East). We also observe a different garbage collection schedule than our eastern counterpart.

Potholes continue to be discussed by neighbors and at the association meeting. Schenectady has made progress filling many holes created by this harsh winter. However, some roads have sections which look like there is more patch blacktop than original road covering. These roads are in desperate need of re-paving. The Daily Gazette article dated May 3<sup>rd</sup>, “Pesky urban potholes merit prompt attention” notes that Municipalities are liable for automobile damage caused by a pothole that has been reported but not fixed within a reasonable time. The state is exempt from such liability if the damage occurs between Nov 15 and May 1<sup>st</sup>. NY State has a pothole reporting hotline # 1-800-POTHOLE. The City of Schenectady mandates that the reporting process must be in writing and addressed to Carl Olsen, Commissioner of General Services either at City Hall, 105 Jay Street or email [colsen@schenectadyny.gov](mailto:colsen@schenectadyny.gov).

Till next time, keep supporting our many and varied Woodlawn business establishments.

### ***A Message From Neighborhood Association President:***

Our Annual Woodlawn Garage Sale was once again a huge success! Thank you to all of our wonderful neighbors in the Woodlawn Community who participated and of course to the hundreds of folks who stopped in to make purchases! Many streets were bumper to bumper! A special “thank you” to Grasso’s Barber Shop (Lou) and Sunoco Gas/Food Mart.



A special recognition to two of our very special Woodlawn Seniors. **Ms. Elsie Harrington (103 years young)** and the “**Mayor of Woodlawn**”, **Lou Grasso**. They received an award from the Schenectady County Department of Senior and Long Term Care Services for their many contributions to our City. Mr. Grasso was also recognized at a luncheon at the NYS Capital for his volunteer efforts with both the Woodlawn Park Redevelopment Committee as well as the Friends of The Woodlawn Preserve. Congratulations and “thank you” not only Lou and Elsie, but to all our seniors who call Woodlawn their home.

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!

**It is sad to announce that after many years of meeting at the Woodlawn Reform Church, we will be changing our meeting location to the Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall, on 1748 State St.** If you haven’t heard, the Church is now closed and for sale. **Our meetings will still begin at 7 PM.** Bring a friend to our meeting, they are always welcome!

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***

# Woodlawn Preserve

AMERICA RECYCLES NEW YORK RECYCLES SCHENECTADY RECYCLES

## WOODLAWN RECYCLES!!!

Recycling container products is easy. Just rinse them out, remove caps and lids, and drop them in your bin – the one with the yellow sticker on it. It's okay to leave labels on cans, glass and plastic bottles and jars. Here's a list of items that can and can't be recycled by city of Schenectady and village of Scotia residents.

### Tin and aluminum

**Yes! Put it in the bin:** Aluminum and tin cans; foil and pie plates; metal lids from glass jars

**No! Don't put it in the bin:** Scrap metal; paint cans; hypodermic needles; batteries

### Glass bottles and jars

**Yes:** Spaghetti sauce jars; apple sauce jars; baby food jars; vinegar bottles; wine bottles

**No:** Broken glass; cups, dishes, plates, glass windows, light bulbs, mirrors

### Plastic bottles and jugs

**Yes:** All plastic bottles; milk jugs; juice bottles; shampoo bottles; detergent bottles

**No:** Plastic bags; Styrofoam; margarine or yogurt tubs; automotive fluid bottles (e.g., oil or antifreeze)

### Milk cartons and drink boxes

**Yes:** Milk and juice cartons; juice boxes; cream and creamer containers

**No:** Refrigerated or frozen food boxes; ice cream boxes; TV dinner trays

Some items that can't be put in your container bin can be recycled in other ways:

- Plastic bags can be recycled at many drug and grocery stores.
- Hazardous waste like paint cans, solvents, automotive fluids and electronics can be taken to the county recycling facility on Hetcheltown Road in Glenville on designated days (\$20 annual fee). Call 386-2225 for the next date.
- No. 1-7 plastic containers like yogurt tubs can be recycled at one of the city's transfer stations: Weaver Street, Moyer Street, or Hetcheltown Road.

Q. Do I have to set out recyclables every garbage day?

A. No! However, you do need a covered bin with a sticker for paper and one for bottles and cans.

Q. *Español?*

A. *Este informacion está disponible para usted en español.*

Schenectady Recycles! is made up of concerned residents who want to improve the recycling rate of the city of Schenectady. For information or questions or to join our effort, email Roberta Farrell, Woodlawn Lead, at [admin@schenectadyrecycles.org](mailto:admin@schenectadyrecycles.org).

Find more information at <http://www.schenectadyrecycles.org> or <http://www.schenectadycounty.com/recycling>



Many thanks to the divers who came from all over to help clean out the pond on Saturday May 24th. We also want to thank the (too many to name) volunteers who came to assist the divers in helping to remove the debris, and document what was found for the **Project Aware Foundation**. Thanks to **Rog Scuba** for coordinating the event, **Marotta's Pizza** for helping to feed the hungry divers after the event, City Clerk **Chuck Thorne** for coordinating the publicity, and **Grasso's Barber Shop** for everything you do. Ronald Ratchford and Joyce Whitson both correctly guessed the number of tires found in the pond (5). They will both receive a Friends of the Woodlawn Preserve hat!



We meet at our usual place, the Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall, 1748 State St. at 7 PM.

As always, please report any unusual activity to the police non-emergency number 382-5263. To report illegal poaching or hunting our DEC officer is

Jason DeAngelis, he can be reached at 357-2047.

Janet Chen 518-210-5439

[Friendswp@gmail.com](mailto:Friendswp@gmail.com)

[www.friendsofwoodlawnpreserve.org](http://www.friendsofwoodlawnpreserve.org)



## The Golden Ear—By John Rose

*This Is A Gossip Column*



This year's garage sale was a huge success thanks to all the Woodlawn residents who held garage sales and those who didn't but had to put up with the traffic. There were a couple of thousand people that came and bought our stuff. This is the largest garage sale in Schenectady County.

St. Paul's Church will be tearing down the old convent (youth center) behind the church. This space will become handicapped parking with a designated space for the Kingsway bus for all the dedicated people that ride it to church.

The dive into the Delta Pond was a very successful event. The divers took out much debris for recycling. Much thanks to Mike Rogan from G&M Auto who was the dive leader.

We would also like to thank the Albany Street Sunoco and Grasso's Barber Shop for selling all of the permits.

A sad farewell to Woodlawn Reformed Church as it closes its doors on June 22, with a church closing service at 4pm in the church. All are welcome.

Congratulations to Lou Grasso (the mayor of Woodlawn), for being nominated and receiving a certificate at a dinner held at The Egg, for the Schenectady County Office of the Aging for volunteering.



*Until next time, I will be listening!*

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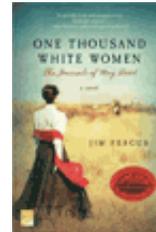
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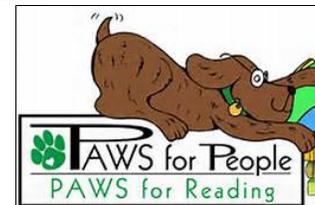


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## WOODLAWN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

### OFFICERS

President	Ed Kosiur	377-8810
Vice President	Lou Grasso	374-1623
Treasurer	Ann Sturges	377-6678
Recording Secretary	Maureen Obie	836-7147

### DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENTS

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

#### *Committee Chairpersons*

Newsletter	Ed Kosiur	377-8810
Newsletter Ads	Cole Denning	227-4085
Woodlawn Park	Spero Zoules	331-0929
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 committees, call the Chairperson or mail them to:

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

### MEETING SCHEDULE 2014

**General Membership meeting** at 7 PM on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at the **Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall, 1748 State Street. (No general meeting in December)**

**Woodlawn Park and Woodlawn Preserve meetings** held on the 4th Wednesday of every month at the Schenectady Hibernians', 1748 State Street. Park starts at 6:30 PM. Preserve follows

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## IN CASE OF EMERGENCY CALL 911.

Officer Anthony Savignano will patrol the Woodlawn area from 4pm to 12am. If you need his assistance for non-emergency situations, please email Anthony at: [ASavignano@schenectadypd.com](mailto:ASavignano@schenectadypd.com)

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<b>July</b> 1, 9, 16, 23, 30	<b>July</b> 2, 10, 17, 24, 31
<b>August</b> 6, 13, 20, 27	<b>August</b> 7, 14, 21, 28

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# Woodlawn Park

## Watch Us Grow...

### New Park Sign Unveiled and Record Breaking Garage Sale Event!!!

The Springtime season brings forth new growth and reenergizes the spirit. Such is the case with the park in the past month as we held our annual Spring Cleanup Day, installed a new park sign at the entrance, held our third annual garage sale event in the park and witnessed another spike in the number of people using the park for recreation.

**A big THANK YOU to the volunteers showed up in late April for our annual park cleanup event.** We raked lots of remaining leaves and removed fallen branches left over from the winter months. We had a good turnout despite the early morning rain and got the park ready for use. And speaking of use, there has been another significant increase in the number of people using the park. From kids playing basketball to larger pickup games on the court and from smaller children using the swings and other playground equipment to families and couples strolling through to sit and relax on the new benches, we have started to witness *a true renaissance in Woodlawn Park*. Why just this past Easter a large family used the park to have an Easter Egg hunt. This has inspired the Woodlawn Park Committee to look at hosting an Easter Egg hunt in the park next year - more details to come as that date nears.

There's a new addition the park as well, and you can't miss it. **It's the Woodlawn Park sign right at the entrance!** This new prominent sign officially puts the park on the map as visitors now can readily see where the park is from Kings Road. In the coming months, we will be working to further beautify the park's entrance, installing new iron fencing and arbor posts along the entryway to greet visitors as they enter the park.



Left: New Sign at entrance to Woodlawn Park. Above: Shoppers at opening of 2014 Garage Sale in the park.

Our annual garage sale in the park saw lots of activity this year. We saw a record amount of donations from the community and volunteers worked hard cleaning and pricing items the weekend before the sale. Sales the following weekend exceeded our expectations again and we broke another record in fundraising! Putting on this event cannot work without the contributions of others. To the community for its donations and

support of this annual event...thank you! Thank you to Bubbles the Clown for coming out and doing some face painting for the kids! Thank you to Mark Karl of Mr. Mark's Tents for providing two, 20' x 30' tents at a significantly reduced cost to us! Thank you to Judy Humphrey from The Kings Inn for her volunteerism, outreach and support of our efforts to make the sale extra special for the kids - please make sure to visit her new business soon! And a big THANK YOU to the dedicated volunteers who worked tirelessly to put this on...you are the best!

We also want to thank Plaines Bike for donating a bike rack which will soon be added to the park. We also recently received a \$200 donation from the Human Rights Commission of Schenectady County for our ongoing efforts to make the park safe and accessible for the whole community. Thank you to this great community organization!

**We also want to recognize one of our own volunteers...Mr. Lou Grasso!** Lou was recently recognized for his volunteerism and long-standing service to the community by the New York State Office of the Aging for senior citizens who make outstanding contributions to their community. Congratulations Lou..Well Deserved!

So as the warmer months proceed, we will continue our work to further enhance the park. We will be hosting a Planting & Mulching Day soon. Please consider coming out to assist if you can - event details will be on our facebook page, [www.facebook.com/WoodlawnParkSNY](http://www.facebook.com/WoodlawnParkSNY).

After that, we will be working to add a few new features to the park. These will include: 1) a newly planted, grassy, common area where there will also be a volleyball net installed for pickup games; 2) freshly painted pavement games for children - e.g. four-square, hopscotch and twister; 3) a new pavilion area with lean-to roofing to escape the elements and porta-potties for park events; 4) a new summer youth program in the park; 5) a platform staging area for performances; 6) the aforementioned iron fencing and arbor posts along park's entryway; 7) improved fencing along basketball court; 8) and the already completed addition of two new picnic tables and a new (and stronger) basketball hoop. All this and more to come...

Warm regards,

Spero Zoulas - Chair of Woodlawn Park Redevelopment Committee

*Woodlawn Park ~ located at intersection of Kings Road & Ricci Avenue*

### Thank you to the following businesses for their recent and ongoing support:

