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September/October ~ 2018

Attend the September 26th and
October 24th WNA meetings...
Meet the Candidates
7 pm @ Hibernian Hall



September 6th...
First Day of School for Students!

Attend the School Board Meetings
Typically meet on the 1st and 3rd
Wednesday of every month



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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NIGHT



The **Annual Woodlawn Neighborhood Association picnic** was once again a huge success! Thank you to the numerous volunteers and organizations that stepped up to lend a helping hand to organize and provide a wonderful evening to share laughter, meet new/old friends and most of all, came to enjoy our most beautiful park here in Woodlawn. Just a few names I need to include (please forgive me if I did not list all of you, you know who you are!). Special "Thank You" to Spero Zoulas, Rose Harrell and her family, Kingsway Community and chef Artie, the Woodlawn Park Redevelopment Committee, the Woodlawn Preserve Committee, our musical group, "The Rogues" and the Mayor of Woodlawn, Lou Grasso!

Our meetings scheduled for **September 26** and **October 24** will feature a "Meet and Greet" of our political candidates who are running for office in November. The Republican Party candidates will be present in September followed by the Democratic Party candidates in October. The public is welcome to attend and ask questions of the candidates.

Reminder, school begins on **Thursday, September 6th**. Please be aware of school busses and students who may be walking to and from school. **Elementary schools begin classes at 8 AM.**

Our association meetings are on the **fourth Wednesday** of each month starting at **7 PM** at the **Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall, 1748 State Street**. Our meetings are open to any city resident!

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at home, **518-377-8810**. I will make every attempt to return your call as soon as possible.

Ed Kosiur—President, Woodlawn Neighborhood Association



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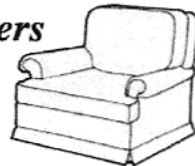
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The Golden Ear—By John Rose

This Is A Gossip Column



We want to thank the City of Schenectady for donating 43 Jersey Barriers to the Woodlawn Preserve. We would also like to thank an anonymous donor for funding the relocation of them to the preserve. They are six feet long and by placing them in the preserve, they will prevent 4-wheelers and snowmobiles from entering the preserve and destroying it. They will be placed along the roadway going into the preserve and along the railroad tracks. Thank you again to the City of Schenectady and our anonymous donor.

Amelia's Restaurant run by Randy Lauren has been put on hold due to illness. When he is feeling better, he will be able to finish reconstruction of the old Ground Round.

Blue Rose Bakery on Upper State Street is owned and operated by the Blue Ribbon Restaurant. They feature pies, cakes, cookies, pastries and gelato. I have tried them all, and they are excellent!! Stop by and see for yourself!

Woodlawn will get new street paving on Halsey Drive, Sullivan Road, Windemere Road, Patrick Court, Nimitz Road and Coniston Road. This is the first paving we have ever had as we have always had tar streets.

Please be patient as St. Paul's is still waiting for their new pastor to arrive.

Please remember that Schenectady has a leash law, so please keep your furry friends on a leash for their safety. Also, please remember to pick up after your dogs.

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

John Rose



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WOODLAWN – The West Side Story By Marcel

I've been traveling some this summer and as a result, my article is short.

Do others feel as I do that we were living in a war zone during the July 4th period? This was a surprise to me as the prior news had stated that Schenectady was gonna come down hard on folks having fireworks. This didn't happen in my neighborhood and the noise continued well past quiet hours. Guess it's time to replace my old earplugs.

Also, I recently had a neighbor come down the street with a warning that some people have been trying door knobs for house entry. She had left her front door unlocked and found a stranger in her home. Fortunately it ended well for her as the person left. Kudos to her for her concern of others. Which brings me to another point. In my travels, I've discovered that almost all conversations eventually involve politics, no matter where I'm at (maybe it's me but I can't take full credit or blame). We are definitely a polarized and divided country. I guess that one thing we should all agree on is to follow my neighbor's example in caring for our property and watching out for others, especially our elderly neighbors. Let's make Woodlawn Great Again. Oops there I go again.

Till next time....

BETH ANN KAYSER

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Welcome to the *Schenectady Social Connection!*

September 2018

The summer has definitely gone by much too quickly and we certainly hope that you all had a wonderful summer packed with adventures, family time, travel, and social events that you took advantage of within the community. The Northeastern Association of the Blind will be providing an informational presentation on "*Aging Successfully with Aging Vision*" on September 11th. We are also excited at the opportunity to offer MVP "*Chair Moves*" for 6 weeks on Thursdays, beginning September 20th.

Please remember that Walmart Vision Services will be here this month (9/11), along with Kingsway Home Care for the monthly Blood Pressure Clinic (9/25). Submitted: Rachael Pidgeon, Coordinator

October 2018

The harvest season is here! Hopefully you take some time to enjoy all the fun festivities that the fall time has to offer, such as apple picking, pumpkin carving, baking apple pies, and watching the leaves change color. This month we also celebrate *Halloween!* Mary Jane will be doing a Halloween craft, so we encourage you to stop by and make your own *pumpkins!*

Please remember that Walmart Vision Services will be here this month (10/9), along with Kingsway Home Care for the monthly Blood Pressure Clinic (10/30). Submitted: Rachael Pidgeon, Coordinator

Luncheon Menu

Provided by: *The Ancient Order of Hibernians* - \$3 (takeout \$4)

Tuesday, 9/11: Ziti, meatballs, salad, dessert ~ **Thursday, 9/13:** Italian sub, pasta salad, chips, dessert ~ **Tuesday, 9/18:** Hamburger, French fries, dessert ~ **Thursday, 9/20:** Fish fry sandwich, fries, coleslaw, dessert ~ **Tuesday, 9/25:** Goulash, roll, dessert ~ **Thursday, 9/28:** Pot Luck

Tuesday, 10/2: Chicken Caesar salad, roll, dessert ~ **Thursday, 10/4:** Cheese pizza, salad, dessert ~ **Tuesday, 10/9:** Chicken & biscuits, dessert ~ **Thursday, 10/11:** Salisbury steak, potato, vegetable, dessert ~ **Tuesday, 10/16:** Cold salad plate, hard boiled egg, fresh fruit, dessert ~ **Thursday, 10/18:** Soup, sandwich, dessert ~ **Tuesday, 10/23:** Hot dog, beans, chips, dessert ~ **Thursday, 10/25:** Chicken fajitas, rice, dessert ~ **Tuesday, 10/30:** Pot Luck

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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:

President - Ed Kosiur (377-8810)
Treasurer - Chad Putman (225-0957)

Vice President - Lou Grasso (374-1623)
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@schenectadypd.com

Non-Emergency phone calls: 630-0911
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The summer flew by and now we're expecting the cooler, more colorful days of fall.

Our 4th Annual Fishing Day in June was a great success, in spite of the torrential rain that wiped out our barbeque. We had as many people participate as we did last year, which leads me to believe that if the weather had been a little more cooperative we might have surpassed our previous attendance. Whatever did Cole do with the 10 pounds of potato salad that we never got to serve?

Fishing has been on the increase, and recently we've heard that a few fishermen have caught some 8-9 inch bass.

We have talked about the jersey barriers the city had promised us for a few years now, and the project is finally coming to fruition. Grandview Block has agreed to deliver the 50+ barriers that have been in use in another part of the city; and we have a local person who will take them from the outside of the Preserve and place them in strategic locations to block illegal entry of motorized vehicles.

The parking area outside of the Preserve on Gifford Road has been getting a lot of garbage dumped from cars and trucks in spite of the garbage can that is available to them. Please – don't litter!

August 18th saw a group of dedicated Friends clearing invasives from an area at the end of McDonald Avenue, which will be a good entry point for kayakers and canoeists to access the pond.

Upcoming Activities: **Friday, September 7th at 10am** – Morning Meander (suitable for adults) in the Woodlawn Preserve, led by the educators at the Albany Pine Bush. Meet at the Gifford Road entrance for a hike of about 1½ miles. Reservation required – call 518-456-0655 or visit www.albanypinebush.org/events. **Friday September 14th 5pm** – Learn 10 Wetland Species led by Steve Young. Steve is the Chief Botanist with the Natural Heritage Program, and a longtime Friend of the Woodlawn Preserve. His walks are always low-key and very informative. We promise you'll come away amazed at how much more you can see after walking with him.

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

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How to Start Your Own Backyard Compost Pile

In the May-June edition of the “Woodlawn Connection,” I discussed what compost is, how composting occurs, and why it is important. In this edition, I explore factors to consider in starting your own compost pile and what to do once you’re ready to begin.

Step 1:

Would you like to compost indoors (yes, it’s possible!- research vermicomposting - a.k.a. composting with worms) or outdoors? If managed properly, your pile should not emit foul odors, however you’ll want to find a location for it where it won’t interfere with your daily routine.

- How much space do you have for your compost pile and bucket(s) to collect food scraps and yard trimmings? You’ll have to experiment to find a system to manage these. You may not be able to put all of your available materials in at once, so you’ll likely need space under your kitchen sink, or in your entryway or refrigerator to store your food scraps. Be sure the buckets allow air inside, whether through holes or a lid slightly ajar.
- How much money can you invest in an enclosure or container to house your compost pile? This will determine whether the enclosure or container is homemade or store-bought. If you live in an area where pets and wildlife may be an issue, you’ll want to cover it. Consider a welded wire cylinder bin or something similar to start.
- What size compost pile are you hoping to build? This will depend on the amount of food scraps and yard trimmings you produce as well as what you’d like to do with your finished compost. For example, if you’re going to use it for your garden or landscape, you’ll likely need a large amount. Remember: Your pile will get smaller as its materials decompose.
- What type of enclosure or container will fit your needs? These can be made of metal, wood, plastic, or a combination.
- How much time and effort can you dedicate to your pile? Remember: Composting happens naturally without human intervention, so if you forget to turn your pile it is not a problem, but if you need the compost for a specific reason, you’ll want to have a larger pile and turn it more to speed up the decomposition process.

Step 2:

Once you have your container, I recommend starting with a layer of “browns” (carbon-rich, dry materials such as brown leaves, soiled paper, and woodchips), then a layer of “greens” (nitrogen-rich, wet materials such as food scraps, grass clippings, and weeds), then another layer of “browns,” and so forth. This is called “lasagna composting” and helps establish air and water movement within the pile. No matter what, you want to end with “browns” on top and keep “greens” from being exposed to the edges of the pile to minimize pest and odor potential. Remember: Do not include meat, bones, oil, or dairy. Brown layers should be about two to three times as thick as green layers at one to two inches.

Turn or mix the pile as you desire with a pitchfork, shovel, or rake. It could be daily, once a week, monthly or longer. This can range anywhere from two months to one year. Larger piles (at least one cubic yard or 3’x3’x3’) turned frequently promote faster composting, as well as having a carbon to nitrogen ratio of 30:1.

To know if your compost pile has finished decomposing, it should look, smell, and feel earthy.

Tip 1: If don’t have a yard or access to yard trimmings, look out for brown yard bags people put on the curb for collection. If you are going to use your finished compost to grow food however, you’ll want to ensure nothing you add to your pile was treated with pesticides.

Tip 2: You can still compost in the colder months of the year; it will just decompose slower. Save “browns” from the fall if you anticipate not having enough during the winter.

(con’t on p. 14)



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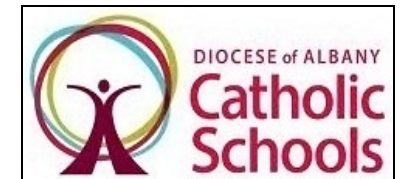


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Notable Days in September & October...

September

3rd - Labor Day
 9th - Grandparents Day & Rosh Hashanah
 11th - 911 Remembrance
 17th - Constitution Day
 23rd - Autumnal Equinox

October

5th - World Smile Day
 16th - Bosses Day
 24th - United Nations Day
 27th - Make A Difference Day
 31st - Halloween



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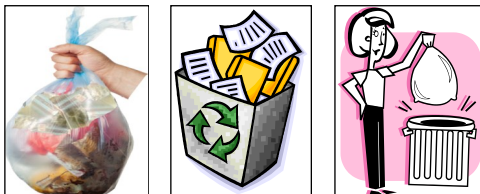
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Woodlawn—Central Park

September
4, 11, 18, 25
October
2, 10, 17, 24, 31
November
8, 16, 27

District #2
Crosstown to Brandywine

September
5, 12, 19, 26
October
3, 11, 18, 25
November
1, 9, 19, 28

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 108 Education Drive; Schenectady, NY 12303
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[Easy Home Composting](http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/materials_minerals_pdf/easycomposting.pdf) has an online diagram showing what I have discussed in this article. Go to: www.dec.ny.gov/docs/materials_minerals_pdf/easycomposting.pdf

Remember: "Making compost takes some care; Add greens, browns, water and air!"

Happy Composting!

Lesley Cutting, ECOS Recycling Committee Member and Master Composter/Recycler of Cornell Cooperative Extension

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Don't Forget....
Buy this bag, we get \$1!



Once again, Friends of the Woodlawn Preserve has been chosen by Hannaford Store Leadership as a benefitting non-profit to receive a \$1 donation through the Hannaford Helps Reusable Bag program for the month of September. Every time the Community bag is purchased at the Hannaford store located at 3333 Consaul Road, Niskayuna, NY during the month of September, the Friends of the Woodlawn Preserve will receive a \$1 donation.



★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★
★ Coco Movie Night at Woodlawn Park ★
★ A fun evening under the stars... ★
★
★ Special thanks to the ★
★ County of Schenectady and ★
★ Friends of the Greenhouse ★
★
★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★



The **Woodlawn Branch** of Schenectady Libraries
2 Sanford Street
518.386.2248

M: 10 am - 5 pm

T-TH: 1 pm - 7 pm

SAT: 1 pm - 5 pm

Closed on Fridays & Sundays

To see what events are going on at this and other
Schenectady public libraries, go to:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=SCNY>

Coco Movie Night a Rousing Success! Basketball Fun Tunnel Arrives

Many thanks to all who came out to our annual movie night at the park in July. **He had over 150 people attend!** Parents, kids and neighbors gathered for a fun night of pizza and popcorn under the stars as we watched Miguel become transported to the *Land of Dead* to uncover his family's legacy. The evening also featured giveaways for children and two lucky winners took home a gift basket of free movie passes and treats courtesy of the downtown Bow Tie Movieland. Special thanks to the County of Schenectady which partly sponsored the event and to the Friends of the Greenhouse at Central Park for their partnership to help us secure the county grant.

The "**Basketball Fun Tunnel**" arrived to the park during the middle of August and was immediately available for kids to enjoy.

Our volunteers have been busy working in the park making further enhancements. We've completed more staining of the concrete around the common area, painted the pavilion flooring a light gray, which not only looks nice, but also makes the area appear bigger. We've also conducted a lot of general maintenance to keep the park looking nice and functional.



As mentioned in the last edition, we're currently in the process of lining up the installation of two to three interactive play stations for children. **Coming in the Fall of 2018** will be another great addition to the park - **The Woodlawn Park Scavenger Hunt - A Historical and Archeological Fun-Filled Expedition of Schenectady Landmarks, Figures and Destinations**. Park visitors will enjoy trying to locate 24 placards: each displaying pictures and text explaining the landmark's, figure's, or destination's significance to Schenectady history. The expedition will begin with Woodlawn Park and end at The King's Highway (*now King's Road*). Along the way, players will learn about GE, the ALCO plant, the Duryee AME Church, Charles Steinmetz, Schenectady Little League's World Champions, the Vale Historic Cemetery, and much more!

The Neighborhood Association's Annual Cookout at the Park was a great night of camaraderie with neighbors, friends and invited organizations. Thank you to all who came out. Neighbors were armed with dishes to share for a variety of offerings as we enjoyed The Rogues band and caught up with friends. Check out the pictures on page 13 of this edition.

Keep your eyes open on our facebook page (WoodlawnParkSNY) for upcoming events, news and more. You can also stop by the park's bulletin board to see our schedule of project days and other events. 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](https://www.facebook.com/WoodlawnParkSNY)

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Life Enrichment Activities ~ September & October

September

- **Tuesday/Thursday, the 4th & 6th:** Closed for observance of Labor Day week
- **Tuesday, the 11th:** 10:30 am - Bingo/Dominos/Walmart Vision Services; 10:30 am - Presentation on "Aging Successfully with Aging Vision"; 1 pm Trivia/Pokeno/Scrabble
- **Thursday, the 13th:** 10:30 am - Bingo/Cards/Dominos; 11 am - Rummikub/Puzzles/"Apples to Apples"; 1 pm - Trivia/Scrabble/Uno
- **Tuesday, the 18th:** 10:30 am - Bingo/Cards/Rummikub; 11 am - Card Making with Mary Jane; 1 pm Puzzles/Pokeno/Scrabble
- **Thursday, the 20th:** 10:30 am - MVP "Chair Moves"/Dominos/Bingo; 11 am - Puzzles/Uno/"Apples To Apples"; 1 pm - Cards/Pokeno/Scrabble
- **Tuesday, the 25th:** 10:30 am - Bingo/Cards/Rummikub/Kingsway Home Care Blood Pressure Clinic; 10:30 am - Dominos/Puzzles/Uno; 1 pm - Cards/Pokeno/Scrabble
- **Thursday, the 27th:** 10:30 am - MVP "Chair Moves"/Puzzles/Dominos/Bingo; 11 am - Cards/Rummikub/"Apples To Apples"; 1 pm - **Monthly Birthday Bash**

October

- **Tuesday, the 2nd:** 10:30 am - Bingo/Dominos/Rummikub; 11 am - Cards/Puzzles/Trivia; 1 pm - Cards/Pokeno/Scrabble
- **Thursday, the 4th:** 10:30 am - MVP "Chair Moves"/Bingo/Cards/Rummikub; 11 am - Dominos/Puzzles/Uno; 1 pm - Trivia/Pokeno/Scrabble
- **Tuesday, the 9th:** 10:30 am - Bingo/Dominos/Walmart Vision Services; 11 am - Card Making with Mary Jane; 1 pm - Trivia/Pokeno/Uno
- **Thursday, the 11th:** 10:30 am - MVP "Chair Moves"/Bingo/Cards/Dominos; 11 am - Rummikub/Puzzles/Cards; 1 pm - Trivia/Pokeno/Scrabble
- **Tuesday, the 16th:** 10:30 am - Bingo/Cards/Rummikub; 11 am - "Apples to Apples"/Uno/Dominos; 1 pm - Cards/Pokeno/Scrabble
- **Thursday, the 18th:** 10:30 am - MVP "Chair Moves"/Puzzles/Dominos/Bingo; 11 am - Dominoes/Puzzles/"Apples To Apples"; 1 pm - Cards/Pokeno/Uno
- **Tuesday, the 23rd:** 10:30 am - Bingo/Cards/Rummikub; 11 am - Dominos/Puzzles/"Apples to Apples"; 1 pm - Trivia/Pokeno/Scrabble
- **Thursday, the 25th:** 10:30 am - MVP "Chair Moves"/Dominos/Bingo; 11 am - Cards/Puzzles/"Apples To Apples"; 1 pm - Trivia/Pokeno/Scrabble
- **Tuesday, the 30th:** 10:30 am - Bingo/Cards/Rummikub/Kingsway Home Care Blood Pressure Clinic; 11 am - Making pumpkins with Mary Jane; 1 pm - **Monthly Birthday Bash**

~ Lunch is always served at 12 Noon ~

Menu available at: <http://cityofscheneectady.com/561/Newsletters>

Free Membership!!

Woodlawn Neighborhood Association Annual Cookout @ Woodlawn Park Thanks to all who attended for a Great Night of Neighborhood Pride



Special thanks to *The Rogues* band, *Kingsway Community*, *Rose Harrell*, and all our volunteers!