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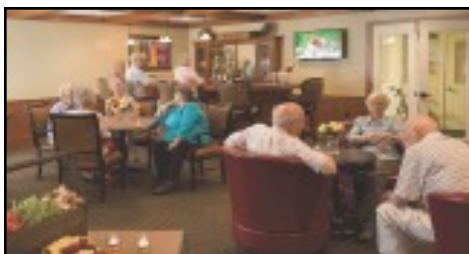


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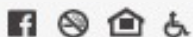


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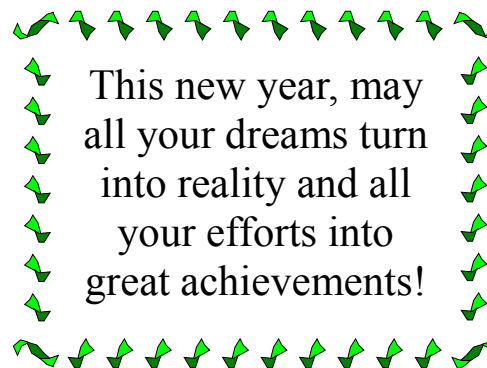
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January/February ~ 2019



This new year, may  
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great achievements!



Happy New Year

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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*The Woodlawn Neighborhood Association*  
[www.woodlawnneighborhood.org](http://www.woodlawnneighborhood.org)

## Where's The Newsletter?

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

Albany Street Sunoco	Lyle's Hoagies
Beth Ann Kayser, CPA	Marotta's Pizza
Blue Ribbon Restaurant	Mavis Tire
Bumpy's Polar Freeze	Ming's
Calvary Tabernacle Church	Mohawk Progressive FCU
Camillo's Bistro	New Life Ministries
Gallo's Florist	Paul Mitchell Focus Salon
G & M Auto	Plaines
Grasso's Barber Shop	St. Paul the Apostle Church
Griswold Funeral Home	Stanford United Methodist Church
H&V Collision Center	Starbucks
Hibernian Hall	Uncle Sam's Candy
King Cork	Woodlawn Library
Kingsway Community	Woodlawn Park
Lorenzo's Italian Cafe	

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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  
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## Holiday Elation at Kingsway...January and February Guests

A special "thank you" to the **Kingsway Community** for once again hosting our annual Holiday Dinner. Special thanks to **Jean Barnowski** and their staff for a great meal followed by holiday caroling to our many fine residents residing at Kingsway. To see the smiling faces and sing-a-long throughout the evening was most enjoyable. The only thing lacking was snow.

Speaking of snow or lack of, our hopes are we continue to lead by example and 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".

If you haven't stopped in the **Senior Center**, located at the Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall, you need to do so! "**The Center**" is open every Tuesday & Thursday from 10 AM—2 PM. Home-cooked lunches are served from noon – 1 PM. A suggested donation of \$3.00 is appreciated. **Membership is FREE!** Look in this newsletter for a schedule of activities, guest speakers and lunch menus they have lined up for January and February. For additional information, **contact Deb Berner at 518-598-2056.**

Reminder, our association meetings are now on the **fourth Wednesday of each month** starting at **7 PM, Ancient Order of Hibernian Hall, 1748 State Street.** Our scheduled speakers for upcoming meetings will be **Police Chief Eric Clifford on January 23. Mayor Gary McCarthy** will be attending our **February 27** meeting. Please "Save the Dates!"

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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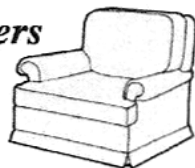
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## The Golden Ear—By John Rose

*This Is A Gossip Column*



St. Paul the Apostle Church now has an Interim Team Priest on weekends. His name is Rev. Matthew H. Frisoni. He will be saying all the masses at both St. Paul's as well as at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. Also, accompanying him is Deacon Matthew McDonald, Interim Team Administrator. He will handle all the decision making for the parishes.

The Church of Nazarene on Consaul Road has a new Senior Pastor. Her name is Elizabeth Criscudo. For information, you can call her at 203-243-3771.

Woodlawn Neighborhood Association had a Christmas Party with dinner provided by the staff at Kingsway Nursing Home. After eating a delicious dinner, we broke up into two groups, singing Christmas carols and delivering cookies to some of the residents.

The Sunoco on the corner of Albany Street and Route 7 has changed its name from Sunoco to Citgo. All the signs have been changed, and they are looking forward to continued support from all of their customers.

The Woodlawn Neighborhood Association has sent a get well card to our former owner of Griswold's Funeral Home and former Vice President of the Woodlawn Neighborhood Association, Terry Van Valkenburg. He is now residing in Florida and has had a serious injury to his leg. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Lucky Woodlawn residents have two great features in the Woodlawn area in Schenectady. They are owned by the city and both run by volunteers. The first one is Woodlawn Park on Kings Road. Future plans involve adding a splash pad to the already great park! The second feature is the Woodlawn Preserve, which is located off McDonald Avenue. It is 134 acres owned by the city and maintained by volunteers. There is also a 7-acre pond that has regular fish and has been stocked with 550 largemouth bass. Thank you to all the volunteers who help maintain these great features.

Woodlawn Park has an annual garage sale and they take donations all year round. If you go their facebook page or our website, you will find information about making donations. You can also contact park chair, Spero Zoulas, at 518-331-0929.

On an additional note, please remember not to leave your furry friends outdoors for long periods of time in the cold weather.

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

John Rose

**BETH ANN KAYSER**

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## WOODLAWN – The West Side Story

By Marcel

Sometimes, Better is not that Good...

I'm referring to Schenectady's 2018-2020 Neighborhood Revitalization Plan. To date, Schenectady has revitalized the downtown area as well as the Erie Boulevard corridor from 890 to the Rivers Casino. Several people, I being one, have complained that to date, our core neighborhoods have been neglected. The city has responded with this plan as a starting point for improving our neighborhood issues.

However, the 2018-2020 plan, as outlined in the November 13<sup>th</sup> Daily Gazette article, targets the Eastern Avenue, Hamilton Hill and Vale neighborhoods. Woodlawn is not included in this plan. The city's rationale is to improve those neighborhoods that it considers more distressed. In these neighborhoods, 79% of the residents are considered low to moderate income. 39% live below the Federal poverty level of \$19,536 median household. Compared to the rest of the city, these income levels are \$12,886 to \$27,275 less for comparable households. Also, vacancy rates are higher and home ownership is lower in the targeted neighborhoods.

The plan calls for the demolition of vacant properties and rehabilitation of homes through the Capital Region Land Bank. There will also be program investment which should result in employment opportunities in these neighborhoods.

Of course, this means that Woodlawn will have to wait to have our dilapidated houses demolished and our roads/infrastructure improved. I'm not sure when our neighborhood issues will be addressed, but I'll stay plugged in.

On another note, Vibe Bar and Lounge, located at 1490 State Street (formerly Camillo's), is now open for business. I'm planning a visit prior to the next article.

Till next time....



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## Welcome to the Schenectady Social Connection!

January

## Activities & Events



- \*Bingo
- \*Scrabble
- \*Pokeno
- \*Yahtzee
- \*Uno/Cards
- \*Rummikub
- \*Wii Bowling
- \*Dominos
- \*Puzzles
- \*Trivia
- \*Connect Four
- \*Knitting

New Year's Baby Guessing Game: Tuesday, January 15th: Bring in a picture of you as a baby by 1/10 if you would like to participate.

Valentine's Day Craft  
with MaryJane

Thursday,  
January 17th  
10:30am

Birthday Bash

Thursday,  
January 31st  
at 1:00pm



MVP "Chair Moves"  
spring session begins  
Thursday, February 28th

Walmart Vision Services

Tuesday, January 15th  
10:30 am



Kingsway Home Care

Blood Pressure Clinic  
Tuesday, January 29th  
11:15 am



Due to any inclement weather, if the Schenectady City School District closes school, the Senior Center will be **closed** that day.

However, we will still be open in the case of any school delays, and the parking lot will be plowed.



Please use caution in the parking lots and on the roads and watch for black ice.

February

## Activities & Events



- \*Bingo
- \*Scrabble
- \*Pokeno
- \*Yahtzee
- \*Uno/Cards
- \*Rummikub
- \*Wii Bowling
- \*Dominos
- \*Puzzles
- \*Trivia
- \*Connect Four
- \*Knitting

St. Patrick's Day Craft  
with MaryJane

Thursday,  
January 17th  
10:30am



Birthday Bash

Thursday,  
February 28th  
at 1:00pm



MVP "Chair Moves" spring session begins Thursday, February 28th



Walmart Vision Services

Tuesday, February 12th  
10:30 am



Kingsway Home Care

Blood Pressure Clinic  
Tuesday, February 26th  
11:15 am



Due to any inclement weather, if the Schenectady City School District closes school, the Senior Center will be **closed** that day.

However, we will still be open in the case of any school delays, and the parking lot will be plowed.



Please use caution in the parking lots and on the roads and watch for black ice.

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## Woodlawn Neighborhood Association

### MEETING SCHEDULE ~ 2019

**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](http://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](mailto:dflavin@schenectadypd.com)

Non-Emergency phone calls: 630-0911  
[www.schenectadypd.com](http://www.schenectadypd.com)

Schenectady Police Department - 531 Liberty Street Schenectady, NY 12305 - (518) 382-5200

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The Preserve is quiet in the winter, but that doesn't mean nothing is happening. Just take a hike after a light snow and you'll see the tracks of any number of rabbits, mice, deer or coyotes. Beavers are active too, swimming under the ice, protected by their waterproof coat. Layers of coarse hairs are on the surface, and underneath a thick layer of fine hairs have tiny hooks on them to knit together tightly to keep water out. They will still emerge from their lodge to eat buds and twigs of alder, poplar, willow and birch; there are also food stores inside their lodge that were gathered over the warm season. When you pass one of the three beaver lodges in the Preserve, you might catch a glimpse of steam rising from the lodge, an indication that there's someone home, enjoying their dry abode.

The jersey barriers piled up at the entrance to the Preserve on Gifford Road will soon be put in place along the borders to prevent unlawful access by motorized vehicles, such as dirt bikes, ATVs and snowmobiles. Dave, Lou and Don also spoke with Northern Nurseries, who were very receptive to having the barriers placed along our common boundaries.

We're already planning some spring programs. The Albany Pine Bush Preserve will be leading two hikes in the Woodlawn Preserve. The first will be **Thursday April 25 2019 at 11 am "Signs of Spring at Woodlawn Preserve"**. Meet at the Gifford Road entrance for a walk of approximately 1-½ miles around the pond. This hike is suitable for all ages.

**"Bird Walk at Woodlawn Preserve" Saturday May 11, 2019 at 7am.** This activity is suitable for ages 6-10, tweens, teens and adults. Bring your own binoculars or borrow ours. **Both of these activities require registration, and children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.** Make your reservation by calling 518-456-0655 or visit [www.AlbanyPineBush.org/events](http://www.AlbanyPineBush.org/events).

**Contact information to report unusual activity or vandalism in the Woodlawn Preserve:** Schenectady Police non-emergency #: 518-630-0911; Email Patrolman Dane Flavin at [dflavin@schenectadypd.com](mailto:dflavin@schenectadypd.com). DEC: 1-877-457-5680; DEC Forest Ranger Dave Nally: 518-424-7805 or 518-408-5850. [David.nally@dec.ny.gov](mailto:David.nally@dec.ny.gov).

Wishing you all a happy and healthy 2019!

Janet Chen, Chair  
Friends of the Woodlawn Preserve  
518-210-5439 ~ [friendswp@gmail.com](mailto:friendswp@gmail.com)

WOODLAWN PRESERVE

## Repair Cafés: Bringing Items Back to Life



world.

Founded by Dutch journalist Martine Postma in 2009, today there are more than 1,500 cafés in over 30 countries. They first emerged in New York State in the Hudson Valley in 2013 and in this area in the beginning of 2017.

A Repair Café is a free event where anyone can bring broken items (no bigger than a piece of furniture) and fix them alongside a coach. It is a collaborative effort to educate and empower the public about how to repair and extend the life of items. This stops them from being thrown away while building community.

People of any town or county are welcome to bring their item(s) to a gathering space (usually a library, church, or town hall) often every two to three months and have a volunteer with expertise in and tools of a particular trade sit down with them to repair their item(s). Common items are small electric appliances, furniture, jewelry, clothing, and bicycles, but if something can't be fixed (it isn't guaranteed due to the unpredictable nature of fixing items), the coaches can help point you in another direction. Attendees also leave knowing they can return if needed or with the satisfaction that they tried, especially if item(s) are of great use and/or have special meaning. Coaches tend to be professionals, hobbyists, and repair tinkerers, but anyone with skills and knowledge may volunteer.

Schenectady's upcoming repair café will be held on January 19, 2019 at Schenectady County Public Library's Central Branch McChesney Room from 10am to 2pm. You can also catch them on April 6, July 27, and September 14, 2019, or check out the city of Saratoga's repair café.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Community/Repair-Cafe-Schenectady-1275086795924103/> (link to Schenectady's repair café Facebook page)

<https://repaircafe.org/en/> (link to Repair Café's home website)

By: Lesley Cutting, ECOS Recycling Committee Member & Master Composter/Recycler of Cornell Cooperative Extension

Interested in volunteering your time, talents, or ideas? Email us - [info@ecosny.org](mailto:info@ecosny.org)  
ECOS: The Environmental Clearinghouse, Inc.



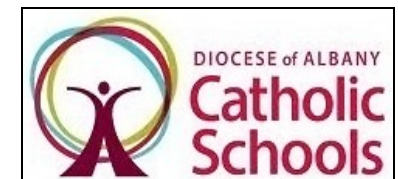
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## Notable Days in January & February...

### January

1<sup>st</sup> - New Year's Day  
 6<sup>th</sup> - Cuddle Up Day  
 14<sup>th</sup> - Dress Up Your Pet Day  
 21<sup>st</sup> - Martine Luther King Day  
 24<sup>th</sup> - Belly Laugh Day

### February

2<sup>nd</sup> - Groundhog Day  
 3<sup>rd</sup> - Super Bowl Sunday  
 12<sup>th</sup> - Lincoln's Birthday  
 15<sup>th</sup> - Singles Awareness Day  
 18<sup>th</sup> - President's Day  
 24<sup>th</sup> - Oscar Night



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### 2019 WASTE COLLECTION DATES WOODLAWN

#### District #1 Woodlawn—Central Park

**January**  
 3, 10, 17, 25  
**February**  
 1, 8, 15, 25  
**March**  
 4, 11, 18, 25

#### District #2 Crosstown to Brandywine

**January**  
 4, 11, 18, 28  
**February**  
 4, 11, 19, 26  
**March**  
 5, 12, 19, 26

Download your district's full-year schedule at:  
[cityofschenectady.com/531/Waste-Collection-Schedules](http://cityofschenectady.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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**NORTHERN RIVERS**  
NORTHEAST PARENT & CHILD SOCIETY  
PARSONS CHILD & FAMILY CENTER

## *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](mailto:Communications@northernrivers.org)  
by Friday, September 29.



**NORTHERN RIVERS**  
NORTHEAST PARENT & CHILD SOCIETY  
PARSONS CHILD & FAMILY CENTER  
*changing lives, including yours*

## *We Change Lives*

Northern Rivers provides life changing care to 14,000 children and families every year, and we're always looking for new members to join our team. Whether you're a bus driver, a teacher, a childcare worker, an RN, or a finance or IT professional, you can change lives here.

### **Open positions include:**

- Resident Counselors
- Registered Nurses (RNs)
- Clinicians
- Bus Drivers

For a full list of our open positions or to apply online, visit our website  
[www.northernrivers.org/careers](http://www.northernrivers.org/careers)

# Happy Holidays from the Woodlawn Neighborhood Association!

Merry Christmas



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

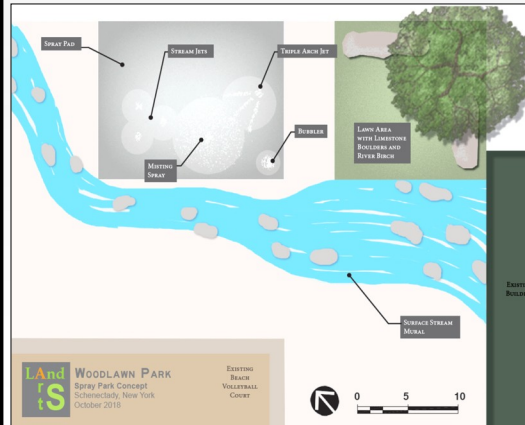
Closed on Fridays & Sundays

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>

## Thank You for Coming Out for our Fall Rake Day...Forward Progress

Thank you to all who came out for our annual fall rake day back in November. With the 34 people who volunteered, work was quick and a lot of leaves were bagged - 84 bags to be precise. *Special thanks to Rennie Fountain* for assisting with the work and providing his trailer to haul away 3 loads of leaves for his garden. If you haven't met Rennie (Clarence Fountain), then your life has not been as enriched with his good deeds and neighborly smile. Many neighbors know of his business - he's an arborist whose service is unmatched. Check out his business card on page 13!



[Preliminary design for Spray Pad Area]

2019 is shaping up to be one exciting year for Woodlawn Park. Our proposal to The Schenectady Foundation's Thriving Neighborhood's Challenge moved onto the next round, and in December we presented our Spray Pad project to a panel for consideration. The project, estimated at a cost of \$82-89,000, would bring back a water feature to Woodlawn for the first time in nearly 20 years and offer children and residents relief from the summer heat and humidity. Along with this project is the planned addition of green space to compliment the spray pad where limestone boulders for seating, grass sod and a tree will provide a spot for relaxation and shade.

Also on tap for 2019 is the addition of our Scavenger Hunt Game where visitors can search the park for placards of Schenectady-themed landmarks, figures and destinations. Scattered throughout the park will be pictured placards. When each is found, visitors will be able to flip them open to learn about the significance of each Schenectady-themed landmark, figure or destination. As mentioned in prior articles, we will also be installing new play panels for our little ones, hanging a new mural up on the backside of the building and potentially installing new planter boxes as part of the swinging bench recently added which would have herbs planted for the community to use and share.

So, 2019 is shaping up to be a big year! To help us supplement the funds for these projects, please keep us in mind for our annual garage sale. We're taking donations year round, so please contact us if you have household items you'd like to donate. We'll spend the winter months planning for what could be our biggest year yet! In the interim, like us on our facebook page and please consider joining our committee's efforts...we're always looking for help.

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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## January & February Luncheon Menu



### January 2019 Luncheon Menu



Provided by: The Ancient Order of Hibernians

\$3 (takeout \$4 when available)

Please make your lunch reservations by calling 518-598-2056. Also, please note once lunch service has begun at 12:00pm, no more lunch tickets will be sold.

<b>Tuesday, 1/8</b> Cheeseburger, French fries, dessert	<b>Thursday, 1/10</b> Sandwich, soup, chips, dessert
<b>Tuesday, 1/15</b> Chicken quesadilla, Mexican coleslaw, dessert	<b>Thursday, 1/17</b> Goulash, salad, roll, dessert
<b>Tuesday, 1/22</b> To be determined	<b>Thursday, 1/24</b> Pierogis, cabbage, applesauce, dessert
<b>Tuesday, 1/29</b> Ziti, meatball, salad, dessert	<b>Thursday, 1/31</b> Chef's Choice & Birthday Bash
<b>Have a suggestion for lunch?</b> Share it with Deb or Rachael and we will be happy to pass your ideas along to the AOH	<b>Please note that takeout meals are \$1 more and are at a first come, first serve basis, after lunch has been served</b>

### February 2019 Luncheon Menu



Provided by: The Ancient Order of Hibernians

\$3 (takeout \$4 when available)

Please make your lunch reservations by calling 518-598-2056. Also, please note once lunch service has begun at 12:00pm, no more lunch tickets will be sold.

<b>Tuesday, 2/5</b> Swedish meatballs with noodles, salad, dessert	<b>Thursday, 2/7</b> Grilled cheese, tomato soup, dessert
<b>Tuesday, 2/12</b> Chicken fajita, rice & beans, dessert	<b>Thursday, 2/14</b> <i>Valentine's Day Social</i> Roast beef, mashed potatoes, vegetables, dessert
<b>Tuesday, 2/19</b> Hot dog, French fries, beans, dessert	<b>Thursday, 2/21</b> Baked ham, au gratin potatoes, vegetables, roll, dessert
<b>Tuesday, 2/26</b> Chicken sandwich, French fries, dessert	<b>Thursday, 2/28</b> Chef's Choice & Birthday Bash
<b>Have a suggestion for lunch?</b> Share it with Deb or Rachael and we will be happy to pass your ideas along to the AOH	<b>Please note that takeout meals are \$1 more and are at a first come, first serve basis, after lunch has been served</b>

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



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## CITY OF SCHENECTADY



**Michael C. Eidens**  
Public Safety Commissioner

531 Liberty Street  
Schenectady, NY 12305  
meidens@schenectadyny.gov

Office: (518) 382-5201  
Mobile: (518) 380-1277  
Fax : (518) 382-5299

Commissioner Michael C. Eidens is responsible for supervision of the Police, Fire, and Buildings Departments



**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.