

The Voice of Woodhaven



Woodhaven Residents' Block Association
 84-20 Jamaica Avenue, Woodhaven NY 11421
 E-Mail: WRBAInteractive@AOL.com
 Web: www.WRBAOnline.com
 Phone: (718) 296-3735

September 2009

"The Guardian of Woodhaven"

Est. 1972 – Now In Our 38th Year!

Your Event Planner

Sept. 15 **Tuesday, September 15**
 The 102nd Pct. Community Council Meeting is **cancelled** due to the Primary and Special Election. **Note:** October's Meeting has been moved to Wednesday, October 21st. Special Guest: Commissioner Ray Kelly.

Sept. 22 **Tuesday, September 22**
Greater Woodhaven Development Corporation. Candidates Night. Also a Special 9/11 Remembrance at this Meeting. STA School – 7:30 PM 87-49 87th Street

Sept. 30 **Wednesday, September 30**
Woodhaven Cultural and Historical Society. Eddie Costello's Trash or Treasure Roadshow. Emmanuel United Church of Christ – 1 PM 91st Ave. & Woodhaven Boulevard- 2nd Floor.

Looking Ahead . . .

Oct. 17 **Saturday, October 17**
Free Mammograms. In front of the Woodhaven / Richmond Hill Volunteer Ambulance Corps. Sponsored by **Sen. Joe Addabbo.**

Oct. 18 **Sunday, October 18**
The Wonderful Woodhaven Street Festival 2009. 11AM-6PM from 80th Street to Woodhaven Boulevard.

Nov. 20 **Friday, November 20**
The WRBA's Annual Dinner Dance @ Villa Russo. Call 718 296-3735 and reserve your place now.

Last Month's Town Hall

Last month's WRBA Town Hall was held on August 19th. We began by celebrating WRBA President **Vance Barbour's** birthday. Our Guest Speaker was **Lt. Frank Visto** of the FDNY who spoke to us about the importance of knowing your surroundings and having an escape plan. Free smoke detectors were also distributed to attendees.



Our elected representatives also turned out in impressive numbers. **Sen. Joe Addabbo** and Council Members **Elizabeth Crowley** and **Eric Ulrich** addressed the residents and spoke about a variety of topics.



The 2 candidates to replace Anthony Seminerio in the Assembly – **Mike Miller** and **Donna Marie Caltabiano** -- also spoke to the residents; they will square off in a special election on Tuesday, September 22.

And we wrapped up the meeting by throwing opening the floor to the attendees. The topic was – "What are the problems we as a community face?" Together, we compiled a list of 25 items – and we'll vote on them next month. Show up and tell us if we missed something!

September 11th



"On this the 8th Anniversary on September 11, we remember one of the saddest days in American history, and in our lifetimes. The loss of nearly 3,000 innocent lives and the many heroes of that sad day who saved so many lives, while sacrificing their own. Also, we remember the destruction and loss of our beautiful Twin Towers forever changing our New York City skyline. Now we are at war, so please fly our American Flag above all others to show your support for our American Troops, Coalition Forces and our America. Never Forget, Never Again, God Bless America!"

On Sunday September 9, 2007 a dedication and unveiling Ceremony of the 9/11 Garden and a Memorial Stone honoring 42 people from Glendale, Middle Village, Ridgewood and Woodhaven lost that day was held at Forest Park's Dry Harbor Playground. This Memorial was sponsored by the American Day Parade Committee and was the dream of the late Ed Walter, founder of this Organization. Those remembered from Woodhaven were **Khamladi K (Khami) Singh** and **Roshan R. (Sean) Singh**, Beloved sister and brother, and our brave **Lt. Robert F. Wallace**, FDNY. Please visit this Memorial and remember in your prayers these 42 and all the other good innocent Americans that were lost that day.

Please Visit Our Proud Sponsors

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Mark your Calendars! The Greater Woodhaven Development Corporation Presents . . .

THE WONDERFUL WOODHAVEN STREET FESTIVAL 2009

Chosen the "Best Street Fair in Queens" **Sunday, October 18th** Rain or Shine 11AM-6PM from 80th Street to Woodhaven Blvd on Woodhaven's Jamaica Avenue. Attend and enjoy

- **Sean Kershaw & The New Jack Ramblers** with C&W Dancers and Dance Instruction.
- Doo Wop Music by Woodhaven's own **Four Pops**.
- The hot sounds of "Heartbreak Station" the smooth songs by "Nassau Project" and the mellow music of "DOT Baker."

Also the exciting Chinese "Lion Dancers" and Hanshi Myron M. Lubitsch Shorinjiryu-Kenayukan Karyukan Karate, WRBA's Business of the Year 2009 and a participant of the Street Fair for 29 years! And much more showcasing Woodhaven's Jamaica Avenue Stores, Businesses and Restaurants. Also vendors galore!! On this safe Family Day, come by the WRBA booth in front of our office at 84-20 Jamaica Avenue and visit with us!! Call 718-805-0202 for more information.

Our Woodhaven Residents' Block Association – "The Guardian of Woodhaven" – celebrates their:

38th Anniversary Dinner Dance

On Friday, November 20, 2009 at the beautiful "Villa Russo." Join us as we proudly honor:

- Man of the Year, Rev, **Frank C. Tumino** on the celebration of St. Thomas the Apostle's 100th Anniversary
- Woman of the Year, **Miss Judy M. Graves**, "Mommy and Me" Instructor
- Business Owner of the Year, **Hanshi Myron M. Lubitsch**, Shorinjiryu-kenryukan Karate
- Community Volunteer of the Year, WRBA's own **Edward K. Wendell** of ProjectWoodhaven.com

Every year this is a great party! Dinner Dance tickets are \$65 each. Also, Journal Advertisements are available, for further information please call 718-296-3735. Reserve your tickets now!

Woodhaven Business Improvement District

The WBID hopes you shopped Woodhaven's Jamaica Avenue for "Back to School" supplies and clothes from Dexter Court to 100th Street. Unfortunately, due to inclement weather, all of our Back to School Day activities had to be cancelled.

Cease and Desist Order

As of August 1, 2009, this Order has **expired**. Please continue to send any mailed or "door knob" Real Estate solicitations with your name and address to our WRBA Office at 84-20 Jamaica Avenue. Also pick up and sign a letter to the N.Y.S. Secretary of State to reinstate this important Program for Queens. Send the message "If I want to sell our Home I'll call you Don't call me!" You can also e-mail your wishes to aqil.qureshi@dos.state.ny.us

Dancing Under the Stars

Thanks to **Law M. Simon** District Leader, "Sweet and Low" & the Woodhaven Business Improvement District we were "Dancing Under the Stars" (that were strung along the ceiling) at the Woodhaven-Richmond Hill Volunteer Ambulance Corps Hall.



We danced for only two weeks in August 2009. Our Great thanks to the Corps and Kelly. The excellent Instructor was **Ellen Connelly**. Hopefully we can do it again this year.

The 102nd Precinct – Congratulations to Charles McEvoy, the CO of the 102nd Precinct has received a well deserved promotion to Deputy Inspector. Our Police Officers continue to deter Crime in Woodhaven. The 102nd Precinct Community Council had a great "Night Out Against Crime" August 7, 2009. A big thank you to Community Affairs Officer P.O. McCoy (718- 805-3215) and P.O. Jervis of CPOP (718 805-3237). Remember if you observe any suspicious individuals ringing doorbells, walking into driveways or loitering call 911 – yes this is a 911 call. If you "See Something, Say Something" So please be aware and be our eyes and ears out there! The number of the 102nd Precinct is 718-805-3200.

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| <p>Jasmine Nails</p> <p>84-20 Jamaica Ave Woodhaven, NY 11421 (718) 296-7198</p> | <p>Your Ad Here (Seen by 6,000 Woodhaven Households)</p> | <p>KARATE YOUTHS - TEENS - ADULTS SHORINJIRYU KENRYUKAN KARATE 980 Jamaica Avenue 1-718-647-4157 Unlimited Classes (certain restrictions apply) Serving Our Jamaica Avenue Neighbors for over 30 Years Professional Not Commercialism</p> | <p>Dr. Arthur Stern Dentist 80-46 Jamaica Avenue Woodhaven, NY 11421 (718) 296-8100</p> | <p>Leahy - McDonald Funeral Home James F. McDonald, Manager Atlantic Avenue & 111th Street, Richmond Hill (718) 849-0785</p> | |
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| <p>YES - I would like to join the Woodhaven Residents' Block Association for 2008 Membership \$10.00 Business \$7.00 Boosters \$5.00 Sign me up for both Membership & Booster \$15.00 Senior Citizen Membership \$5.00 For Membership & Booster \$10.00</p> <p>NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ E-MAIL _____ TEL _____ Please return this form by mail or in person to the WRBA OFFICE, 84-20 JAMAICA AVENUE. WOODR-041915 Please print clearly. (Checks are preferred)</p> | | <p>Deneille Loprete Dance Studio Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Hip Hop, Exercise, Salsa Birthday Parties Private Lessons 94-14 Jamaica Avenue 718-846-9126</p> | <p>St. Luke's Nursery School 87-34 85th Street Licensed by NYC Still accepting registration Call 718-296-6683</p> | <p>KARMEL DENTAL Russell Karmel DDS • Gary Karmel DDS Really Nice Dentists We Care A Lot 87-03 Jamaica Avenue (718) 849-5900</p> | |

Woodhaven In The News . .



Woodhaven residents demand fix of 'J' train station

BY KELDY ORTIZ

Tuesday, August 25, 2009 3:22 PM EDT

Riding, walking or parking below the J train line in Woodhaven could be hazardous.

The urgency of refurbishing the J train line that rumbles above Jamaica Avenue, where there have been reports of falling debris, brought together Councilmember Elizabeth Crowley, Senator Joseph Addabbo, and Maria Thompson of the Great Woodhaven Development Cooperation at a press conference on Monday, August 24 at the Woodhaven Station in Jamaica.

"For far too long the Jamaica Avenue train line has been neglected," said Crowley. "We have safety concerns that need to be address that should have been addressed years ago."

Crowley and the others explained that the MTA should make this an immediate top priority and not put the plan "on the backburner" to be discussed later.

Addabbo recalled that, over the years, little progress has been made to renovate the line.

"I've been coming along Jamaica Avenue since I was a kid, and I can tell you this has not changed since I was about five-years-old," he said.

An area resident for 40 years, Thompson explained that, while the MTA worries about budgeting and improving bus and subway lines, they should worry about what will become of stations like Woodhaven.

"It's time Woodhaven got some attention from the MTA to correct this problem," said Thompson. "It looks terrible, it's falling apart, and pieces fall on people as they walk on the avenue."

A passerby, who declined to give his name, agreed that changes to the external structure of the J line need to be made.

"When it rains, the water gets into the station and the painting cracks from the walls," said a 10-year area resident, adding that incidents occur from not fixing the station.

"The stairs are very dangerous. I saw a woman fall down the stairs the other day," the resident added.

"If we don't fix what's currently here, how can we embark upon new projects?" said Crowley.

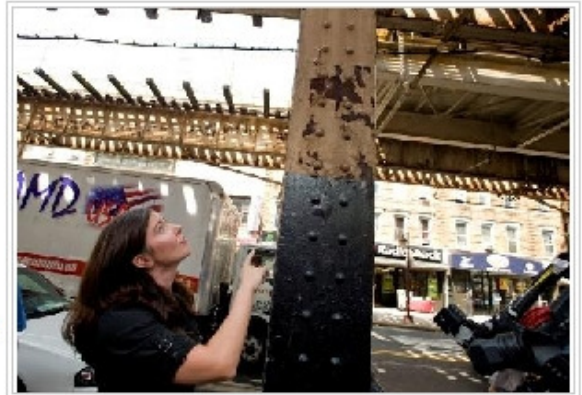


Photo Courtesy of Bill Alatraste

Councilmember Elizabeth Crowley points to the peeling paint from the beam of the elevated J train line at the Woodhaven Station on Jamaica Avenue.

Savings in Woodhaven

BY LEIGH REMIZOWSKI AND LISA L. COLANGELO

DAILY NEWS WRITERS Tuesday, August 11th 2009, 4:00 AM



For decades, Woodhaven has been a destination point for shoppers. Jamaica Ave. is packed with stores for every need and it's all close to public transportation. The J and Z subway lines run overhead and buses run along nearby Woodhaven Blvd. Here is a sampling of some values you can find along the avenue.

YARNS: Smiley's Yarns, 92-06 Jamaica Ave.; (718) 849-9873 (smileysyarns.com)

Visitors to this spacious store can find yarns in every color for \$2.99 or less. A recent sidewalk special featured balls of yarn for 59 cents. The cheap prices and large variety draw shoppers from all over the city and beyond. The store also does a brisk business on the Internet.

HARDWARE: Hardware City, 79-06 Jamaica Ave.; (718) 296-2000 (www.hardwarecity.com)

Owner Tony Rinaldi has operated this all-purpose hardware store for 22 years. People come by for everything from plumbing parts to screen and window repairs. The store copies most house keys for \$1 and tool rentals go for about half of the price of the big box stores.

FURNITURE: Iveria Furniture, 84-23 Jamaica Ave.; (718) 850-7877

Because springing for new furniture isn't a top priority for most people these days, selling a sectional couch for more than \$200 less than its standard price tag is the way Iveria is enticing its customers, according to salesman Joe Fuld. In the store's showroom, a brand-name sectional couch is priced at \$795, a three-drawer storage bed goes for \$399 and a leather love seat and sofa combination costs \$999. "These prices are the cheapest I've seen," Fuld said.

OFFICE SUPPLIES: GJ OfficeSupplies, Inc., 80-13 Jamaica Ave., (718) 296-1924

The computer-savvy flock here for free diagnostics, spare parts and for the store's specialty - more than 100 cheap ink cartridge packages. A Canon ink combination pack costs \$53.99. It includes both black and color cartridges as well as 50 sheets of glossy photo paper and is normally sold for \$58. The store also offers cheap back-to-school supplies and computer repairs.

NAIL SALON: Jasmine Nails, 84-20 Jamaica Ave.; (718) 296-7181

Being pampered on a budget isn't so hard at this salon, where a manicure and pedicure combination costs just \$14. Acrylic tips cost \$15 and can be filled for \$13. The salon also offers a half-hour massage for \$25 and deals on waxing, which start at \$5 for a lip wax.



R&S Army Navy Store, 91-13 Jamaica Ave. (718) 441-4670 (www.armynavyusa.com)

Army-Navy stores were once a staple in every Queens neighborhood. But owner Simon Strum, who has been in Woodhaven for more than 30 years, is now one of the last of these specialty stores in the borough. His store boasts a large selection and slashed prices. Battle dress uniform cargo pants, which can sell for \$40 to \$80, go for \$24.99. They sell Levi's jeans for \$29.99. "This is a very practical store," said Strum, whose inventory includes T-shirts, underwear and socks as well as an array of military insignia. "Whatever we carry, people need."

DINER: Avenue Diner, 91-06 Jamaica Ave.;(718) 441-0582 (www.avenuediner.net)

The Avenue Diner, which opened just four months ago, is a shiny, bright spot on Jamaica Ave. Owner Paul Vasiliadis offers a packed menu of classic American and Greek specialties along with paninis, salads and 8-ounce hamburgers. "We really wanted to create a complete menu so that everyone who comes in here can find something," said Vasiliadis. The lunch special offers an entree such as lamb stew, open steak deluxe or chicken marsala with soup or salad, potato or rice and vegetable and Jell-O or pudding for just \$8.95.

DELI: Manor Delicatessen, 94-12 Jamaica Ave.;

(718) 849-2836 (www.manordeli.com)

This longtime neighborhood favorite (it dates back to 1915) is famous for its homemade salads, sandwiches and hot dinners. On a recent day, owner Mark Gallagher worked the counter behind trays heaped high with porkchops, bratwurst, Salisbury steak, and macaroni and cheese. "People love the potato and cucumber salads," he said. The deli has several lunchbox specials including grilled bratwurst with sauerkraut, chips and a soda for \$5.99. There are also daily salad and burger specials. Delivery is free with a \$20 minimum order. They also fax out a daily menu that comes with a trivia question and factoid.

Woodhaven In The News . .