

The Voice of Woodhaven



Inside:

- State of the WRBA - Pg. 1
- Cease and Desist - Pg. 2
- The 2010 WRBA Fundraiser - Pg. 5
- The Sign Warriors - Pg. 6



The Woodhaven Residents' Block Association

"The Guardian of Woodhaven"
Established 1972

84-20 Jamaica Avenue
Woodhaven, NY 11421
718-296-3735

woodhaven.residents@gmail.com

President -	Edward K. Wendell
1 st Vice President	Janet Chan-Smith
2 nd Vice President	Alexander Blenkinsopp
3 rd Vice President	Roger Hennin
Secretary	Arlene Annunziata
Treasurer	Vance Barbour
Financial Sec'y	Maria Thomson
Director	Fred Mandahal
Secretary/Mgr	Linda Fogal

Woodhaven **BID**
Business Improvement District



TAKING CARE OF "BIDNESS"

Woodhaven – A Haven
in the City. Shop Woodhaven's
Jamaica Avenue!

The Greater Woodhaven Development Corporation

718-805-0202

President Stephen Esposito

Shop Woodhaven's Jamaica Avenue -
From Dexter Court to 100th Street

Deneille's

Dance Studio

Ballet, Tap, Jazz,
Hip Hop, Exercise,
Salsa
Birthday Parties
Private Lessons

94-14 Jamaica Avenue 718-846-9126

**MIKE'S
PUB**

79-19 Jamaica Ave. 718-296-9683

Forest Park Senior Center



8902 91st Street
Woodhaven, NY
(718) 849-2222
Mon - Thurs.
9 AM - 4 PM

DONNA CALTABIANO
Executive Director

YES – I would like to join the WRBA for 2010!

Membership \$10 _____

Boosters \$5 _____

Senior Membership \$5 _____

Name _____

Address _____

E-Mail _____

Phone _____

Please print clearly and submit (or mail)
to the WRBA Office – Checks preferred.

From the Desk of
The President

Whole Lotta Shakin' Going On!

Thus far, 2010 has been an exciting year for the Woodhaven Residents' Block Association. We started things off with a bang, going after the out-of-state license plates that are all over Woodhaven. Our efforts didn't go unnoticed and we've been in touch with other civics looking for similar outside-the-box solutions to other problems that plague us.

We were happy to be involved in helping bring attention to the issues that the Woodhaven / Richmond Hill Volunteer Ambulance Corps was having and were overjoyed that their problems were resolved when our elected officials – CMs Crowley and Ulrich, Assemblyman Miller, and Sen. Addabbo – were able to work together to not only resolve the WRHVAC's problems, but to find a home for the Woodhaven Adult Senior Center. For sure, our contribution to the solution was modest, but we were happy to have helped in any way possible.

We've taken to the streets in 2010 and we've been tearing down those ugly mortgage signs wherever they pop up. And we now have a Graffiti Committee, a group of dedicated residents who are currently documenting all cases of graffiti vandalism throughout Woodhaven.

More recently, we've been working hard to bring attention to the ongoing saga of the Forest Park Carousel, calling for it to be reopened before the summer ends. Our Facebook petition drive attracted a lot of attention and, again, we took to the streets to collect signatures – and we ended up meeting a lot of our fellow neighbors.

Our enthusiasm is sky-high and we expect to be twice as busy between now and December! We hope that many of you are just as excited and will volunteer to help us on one of our many projects. At the very least, we do hope to see you at our next public Town Hall Meeting, Wednesday, August 18th at 8 PM – and we'll be back with our friends at the Ambulance Corps at 78-15 Jamaica Avenue.

Until next time, stay cool and please don't over-exert yourself in this heat!

Edward K. Wendell – President, WRBA

Shorinjiryu Kenryukan Karate
少林寺流拳龍館



YOUTHS - TEENS - ADULTS
980 JAMAICA AVENUE
718-647-4157
UNLIMITED CLASSES
(certain restrictions apply)
Serving Our Jamaica Avenue
Neighbors for over 30 Years
Professional Not Commercialism

Leahy McDonald Funeral Home



111-02 Atlantic Avenue
718-849-0785

ABRAMOWITZ MEMORIALS, INC Phone:
826 Jamaica Avenue 718-277-2937
Brooklyn NY 11208 718-277-2938
718-827-0195
Weitzner Monuments 718-277-3800
Blevitzky Monuments 212-254-8826
J. Goldstein & Sons 516-328-0553
Benisch Bros. Monuments Fax:
Lerman Monuments 718-647-9761
718-591-1171

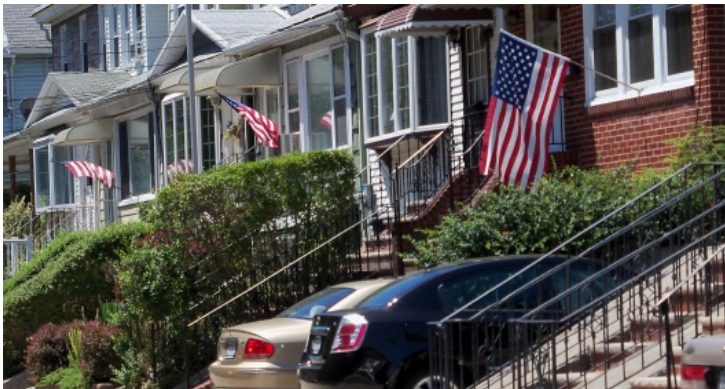
SCHMIDT'S CANDY STORE
Since 1925
94-15 Jamaica Ave. – 718-846-9326

Woodhaven Protected by Cease-and-Desist Rule

After prolonged efforts by the Woodhaven Residents' Block Association and the Greater Woodhaven Development Corporation, Woodhaven has been named one of only seven Queens neighborhoods in which homeowners can choose to prevent solicitations from real estate agents.

New York's Secretary of State renewed Woodhaven's status as a "cease-and-desist zone," meaning that Woodhaven homeowners can be placed on a list to ensure that they receive no real estate solicitations—including phone calls, mailings, and door-to-door visits—to sell their properties. To be placed on the list, the required form can be submitted electronically at <http://www.dos.state.ny.us/lcns/cdform.asp>.

"This represents a real victory for the people of Woodhaven," said WRBA Director Maria Thomson. "Cease-and-desist zones protect property owners from intense real estate solicitations. With Woodhaven now covered, we are a step closer to ensuring that avaricious real estate agents do not target Woodhaven and spoil its character."



Through the work of the WRBA and the GWDC, Woodhaven had previously been designated a cease-and-desist zone. The designation expired after five years, however, thus requiring renewal by the Secretary of State for another five-year period.

The WRBA urges all homeowners to fill out the very simple form, so that they can enjoy the benefits of Woodhaven's cease-and-desist coverage. Those who would like a paper copy of the form mailed to them should call the WRBA office at (718) 296-3735.



We had a great crowd at our July Town Hall which was held at the Forest Park Senior Center. Please join us next time at 8 PM on August 18th at the Volunteer Ambulance Corps (78-15 Jamaica Avenue).

**Assemblyman
Mike Miller**

**(718) 805-
0950**

JAMES F. ROONEY ESQ.

Formerly Chief of Probate - Surrogate's Court - Qns

86-07 Jamaica Avenue 718-847-0090

Ask for "Free Facts About Wills &
Probate" Booklet

Wills • Probate • Estate Administration • Elder Law

A STEP ABOVE

FREE ESTIMATES
JAMES BAXTER
718-847-6930

847-6930

Blockwork, Brick Stoops,
Driveways, Tile Work

Writer's & Pints

Another Evening of the Written Word in Woodhaven

Sponsored by the Woodhaven Residents' Block Association,
ProjectWoodhaven.com and Historic Neir's Tavern

**CORRECTION:
SEPT. 23rd**

~~July 15~~ 2010 @ 7:30PM
At Historic Neir's Tavern

87-48 78th Street
Woodhaven, New York 11421
(718) 296-0600

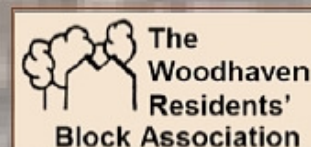
Poetry, Fiction, Creative Non-Fiction, Short Story,
Journalism, Memoir, Writing for Stage & Screen, Writing
for Children, etcetera.

Come on, come all! All are welcome and there is no
charge to attend or read your own written materials.

Enjoy local writers and support the arts in Woodhaven
and the borough of Queens.

Participants must be 21 years of age .

Contact the Woodhaven Residents' Block Association for more
details at info@woodhaven-nyc.org or (718) 296-3735



Woodhaven Community's 175th Anniversary: 1835 to 2010 – The Renaissance Continues

Forest Park carousel fans have to wait a while longer as city continues search for new vendor

BY LISA L. COLANGELO

DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER

Visitors to [Forest Park](#) hoping to take a ride on its historic carousel will have to wait a little longer.

Plans to open the carousel, which has sat silent for more than a year, are still pending while the city works with a new vendor and vies for state funding to help with its restoration.

Local officials had originally hoped the wood carousel - cited by experts as a rare jewel - would be open this summer.

Heartbroken carousel lovers are making their voices heard with a grass-roots campaign that includes a new [Facebook](#) page and a petition drive.

More than 250 people have joined the group in less than a week, sharing memories and urging officials to act quickly.

"The response has been overwhelming," said Ed Wendell, president of the Woodhaven Residents Block Association.

"The Forest Park Carousel touched so many of their lives, and they all hope that years from now their little ones will be able to look back on it as fondly as they do now," he said.

The carousel is one of the last remaining works of master woodcarver Daniel Carl Muller. It dates back to the early 20th century but didn't arrive in Queens until the 1970s. It was brought to Forest Park to replace a carousel that had burned down in 1966.

The carousel fell into disrepair and was reopened in 1989 after a top-to-bottom renovation. But it fell into neglect again and its previous vendor, New York One LLC, pulled out almost two years ago.

City Councilman Eric Ulrich (R-Ozone Park) and others wrote letters to state officials in charge of historic grants, saying the carousel is the "heart and soul" of the Woodhaven community.

Parks Department spokeswoman Patricia Bertuccio said yesterday that negotiations were continuing and a reopening date has not been set.

Be sure to catch your local News in the Queens Section of the NY Daily News!



www.nydailynews.com



C. Verdino & Sons Inc.
Garden Center & Florist
109-09 Rockaway Blvd.
718-848-0830

Pond & Waterfall Department
Family Owned and Operated



97-13 Jamaica Ave.
718-847-0090

Instant Offset Printing, Typesetting,
Flyers, Rubber Stamps, Wedding
Invitations, Resumes, Letterheads,
Envelopes, One-Day
Business Cards and more!

COMMUNITY FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK
89-07 Jamaica Ave
718-847-6333

Proving Every Day That Friendly Banking Still Exists



Member FDIC

Woodhaven Footcare

Dr. Robert Castelli
Dr. Michael Scott
Dr. Jimmy Li

Podiatric Medicine, X-Rays,
Orthotics, Orthopedic Shoes,
Diabetic Footcare



718-846-7872

WRBA Announces Plans, Honorees for Annual Fundraiser

The Woodhaven Residents' Block Association has announced that its annual Dinner Dance / Fundraiser will be held on November 20th at Joe Abbraciamento's Restaurant on Woodhaven Boulevard.

As you know, the WRBA runs on a shoestring budget – and with the recent financial woes in New York, we've had to make do with less. Thus, sponsorships, memberships and fundraisers are what keeps us alive. All that being said, we've managed to keep the ticket prices the same as last year – \$65 – and this year, members get a \$5 discount!

We have a wonderful slate of honorees this year. Our Woodhaven Resident of the Year is **Leonora Lavan**, who for nearly two decades has led the Woodhaven Cultural and Historical Society.



Our Business of the Year is historic **Neir's Tavern**, which recently reopened after a wonderful restoration. And not only that, the owners have lay claim to the mantle of the oldest bar in New York, clocking in at 181 years old! Congratulations to the owners of Neir's – above, from left to right – Andy Bigan, David Eng, Alex Ewen and Loycent Gordon.

And **Roger** and **Josephine Hennin** are our first inductees into the WRBA Hall of Fame. Roger and Josephine have spent most of their lives here in Woodhaven, and over a half-century married to each other!

Tickets can be purchased at our monthly Town Hall meetings, our office at 84-20 Jamaica Ave or by credit card online at www.woodhaven-nyc.org. Call (718) 296-3735 for additional information.



QUEENS COUNTY SAVINGS BANK
New York Community Bank

A Division of New York Community Bank – Member FDIC

93-22 Jamaica Avenue 718-850-1242
 Mon. 9am-7pm, Tues – Fri 9am-4pm
 Saturdays 9am to 3 pm

To find a branch near you call 448-7272 or visit www.myNYCB.com

N. F. Walker
 Of Queens N.Y. Funeral Home

Our Mission:
"To create a meaningful, dignified, affordable funeral"

87-34 80th Street
 Woodhaven, NY 11421
 718-296-4343
 E-Mail: info@walkernf.com

The WRBA's Zero Tolerance Policy On Signs

A while back, a slew of commercial signs have gone up, nailed to telephone poles around Woodhaven. We counted between 65 and 80 signs. These are an eyesore -- and, as it turns out, **illegal**. One thing we as a community have to do is get rid of these signs as fast as possible, lest other companies get the bright idea to follow suit.

Here is the relevant code from the NYC Department of Sanitation -- looks like they tried to cover all the bases when writing the law:

Posting

It is illegal for any person to paste, post, paint, print, nail or attach or affix by any means whatsoever any handbill, poster, notice, sign, advertisement, sticker or other printed material upon any curb, gutter, flagstone, tree, lamppost, awning post, telegraph pole, telephone pole, public utility pole, public garbage bin, bus shelter, bridge, elevated train structure, highway fence, barrel, box, parking meter, mailbox, traffic control device, traffic stanchion, traffic sign (including pole), tree box, tree pit protection device, bench, traffic barrier, hydrant or other similar public item on any street. There is a rebuttable presumption that the person whose name, telephone number, or other identifying information appears on any handbill, poster, notice, sign, advertisement, sticker, or other printed material on any item or structure is in violation.



Our Sign Warriors

Every handbill, poster, notice, sign, advertisement, sticker, or other printed material shall be deemed a separate violation. Anyone found to have violated this provision, in addition to any penalty imposed, shall also be responsible for the cost of removal of the unauthorized postings.

S10-119, S10-121 (a-e, g)

Fine: \$75 - 200 1st Offense

\$150-300 2nd & Subsequent Offenses

As you can see above, Woodhaven has a few Sign Warriors that took to the streets and removed them by hand. That's our zero tolerance for signs policy in action!

You want to be part of the team? Step forward, let us know!



Woodhaven, NY

1835



2010

Celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the Founding of our Village

WOODHAVEN RESIDENTS'
BLOCK ASSOCIATION'S
39TH ANNUAL DINNER DANCE
& FUNDRAISER

Honoring

Leonora Lavan
Resident of the Year
President – Woodhaven
Cultural & Historical
Society

Neir's Tavern
Business of the Year
Owners David Eng, Loycent
Gordon, Alex Ewen and
Andy Bigan

Roger & Josephine
Hennin
Charter Inductees
WRBA Hall of Fame

Friday, November ~~20th~~ ^{19th} at 7:30 PM
Joe Abbracciamiento's Restaurant
6296 Woodhaven Blvd. Rego Park, NY 11374

Tickets are \$65 and can be purchased at our monthly Town Hall meetings, our office at
84-20 Jamaica Ave or by credit card online at www.woodhaven-nyc.org.
Call (718) 296-3735 for additional information.

W R B A M e m b e r s

Amabile, Elizabeth
Annunziatia, Arlene
Barbour, Vance & Christine
Behling, Mariette
Bermingham, Maureen & Robert
Blenkinsopp, Alex
Blenkinsopp, Marianne
Bucca, Colin & Janet
Butlere, John
Caltabiano, Donna
Colberg, Martin
Comaianni, Nick
Concolino, Mr. & Mrs
Cosenza, Jack & Maria
Cosmo Interior / Exterior Contracting
Donovan, Gregory & Kathleen
Figliola, Dorie
Fisehetti, Nicole
Fogal, Linda & Richard
Forte, Janet & Steve
Freeman, Faith
Gamble, Debbie
Garcia, Jocelyn
Guzman, Lydia
Hennin, Roger & Josephine
Hinchev, Roseann
Isabella, Joanne
Kaiser, Herman
Keller, Maryann & Tom
Kramer, Claire
Kulick, Rosemary
Maubaham, Eddie
Maurina, Lena
Miller, Mike
Murray, John
Nevins, Gail
Pascucci, Bea & Nick
Peterson, Marie
Polito, Robert
Ramos, Nelson
Rodney, Yet Len

Rodriguez, Joyce
Rotondo, Grace
Sendek, Victor
Simonetti, Sal
Smith, Janet & Richard
Solorgano, Delia & Carlos
Raghunath, Andrea
Thomsom, Maria & Bob
Virgona, Joe & Sue
Wagner, Anne
Wendell, Josephine & Ed
Whalen, Patricia

Many thanks to all our members!




WOODHAVEN PHARMACY
Joseph Testa, Pharmacist
86-22 Jamaica Avenue
718-846-7777



Memories

Forest Parkway, 1910





ASSEMBLYWOMAN
AUDREY I. PHEFFER
District 23
90-16 Rockaway Beach
718-945-9550
108-14 Crossbay Blvd.
718-641-8755



Eric A. Ulrich
32nd Council District
93-06 101st Avenue
718-738-1083
98-16 Rockaway Beach Blvd.
718-318-6411

OHLERT-RUGGIERE, INC.
REAL ESTATE
Insurance & Income Tax Preparation
89-11 Jamaica Avenue
718-847-2323



Dr. Arthur Stern
Dentist
80-46 Jamaica Ave.
718-296-8100