

Woodbury Bulletin Board - May Issue

By Town Councilman James Skoufis

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Enjoy May and remember to be especially loving to your mother this month!

Always,
James

Your Local Government

- Thanks are in order for Rich Jackson whose two years on the Village Board came to an end last month as well as George Sewitt and Thomas Bompensiero for their years of service on the Planning Board. All three define what it means to give back to the community and have contributed a great deal to Woodbury and its residents.
- Election Notice: All are encouraged to head to the polls on Tuesday, May 18 to vote on Monroe-Woodbury's school budget, two propositions, and three school board seats. The election will be held at Central Valley Elementary School from 6:00am-9:00pm.
- Woodbury will be hosting its first annual Spring Cleaning Day on Saturday, May 15. Sponsored by the Town of Woodbury, volunteers will first meet at the Central Valley Elementary School (across from Woodbury Common) at 10:00am before being sent out to pick up the trash and litter that lines out town. Breakfast, BBQ, t-shirts, and supplies will be provided - just bring yourselves, family, and friends! Additionally, if you know of an area in need of cleaning, please email myself at james@skoufisforwoodbury.com or Rob Weyant at detailing23@yahoo.com.
- Road Updates: Work on County Route 105 has been completed and reopened in late April. With regard to the Estrada Road Bridge, engineers have inspected the site and are in the process of putting together proposals for the Town Board to look over; completing repair will undoubtedly take quite some time, but updates will be provided as the process moves along.
- The county legislature is moving forward on two items that bear bad news for Woodbury residents: the water master plan and expanding sewer district one, including the treatment plant in Harriman. As mentioned in a previous newsletter issue, the water master plan would strip local municipalities of home rule and, effectively, give all water planning control to the county executive. If the county executive wants a network of pipes installed in Woodbury he can unilaterally do it under the current plan. Likewise, residents will see their taxes increased as a result of having to fund an increased number of water projects across the county.

- Additionally, County Executive Ed Diana wants the legislature to include Camp LaGuardia in our sewer district and, simultaneously, expand the Harriman Treatment Plant every time it reaches 85% capacity, which it is presently nearing. He wants to do this despite the fact that many families in Woodbury have been prevented from hooking into the public sewer district for years due to a moratorium - what about us? Why does our county executive continue to treat our community and our residents like second-class citizens? Not to mention that there is no space to expand the Harriman plant, the emanating odor is already unbearable, and, of course, we would have to pay for it. As votes on these two issues near next month, keep your eyes open for action items from myself and others - we won't let these pass without a fight.
- Woodbury has been without a Photo News reporter for far too long and, despite my constant urgings, they have thus far been unresponsive. The newspaper prides itself in covering Monroe, Woodbury, and Tuxedo, but, without a dedicated reporter, Woodbury's news and events often go neglected at the expense of local residents. I encourage everyone to contact Editor Bob Quinn at nyoffice@strausnews.com / 845-469-9000 and ask him to cover what's going on in our town; please be polite and respectful in your correspondences. Finally, the Woodbury Gazette should be commended for filling the void and providing reporting on our community's happenings.
- A notice for Woodbury small businesses: Orange and Rockland's Small Business Direct Install Program - a \$9 million initiative - offers a free survey that identifies equipment eligible for energy efficiency upgrades. It also extends an incentive of 70% to install the identified equipment on top of the energy cost savings many upgrades will bring to owners. If there was ever a time to "green" your business, it's now! Call Robert Melvin at 877-852-5678 for more information.

Woodbury Calendar

- Thursday, 5/6: The HM United Methodist Church will conduct a National Day of Prayer service at 7:30 for members and the community to observe the occasion. For more information, call 928-6177 or visit nationaldayofprayer.org.
- Thursday 5/13: Woodbury Historical Society co-sponsors the Creative Theater/Muddy Water Players' production of "Blithe Spirit" on at 8:00pm at Museum Village in Monroe. Tickets are \$20 per person; contact 928-6770 for more information.
- Saturday 5/15: Woodbury Spring Cleaning Day - Meet at the Central Valley Elementary School at 10:00am.
- Saturday 5/15-16: Woodbury residents Paul and Beverly Miller will present an exhibit of their collection of Hudson River School of Art paintings at an art show

at McGarrah's Inn in Monroe at 7:30pm on May 15 and 3:30pm on May 16. Attendees' \$20 donations will benefit the restoration of the historic McGarrah's Inn and includes a lecture and wine and cheese reception.

- Sunday 5/16: Sewing the Seeds of Love Day, sponsored by the Highland Mills United Methodist Church. Free: haircuts and styles, massage workshops, health evaluations, nutritional information, karate lessons, fitness, arts and crafts, face painting, games, blood drive bus, gifts, prizes, healthy snacks, and more. The event is set for 1-5pm at Earl Reservoir; contact 928-6177 for more information.
- Sunday 5/23: Woodbury's Memorial Day Parade takes place a week earlier than usual - be sure to mark your calendars and meet marchers out on Route 32 starting at 1:00pm.
- Sunday 5/23 - Palaia Vineyards will host a fundraiser for the Monroe-Woodbury All Night Graduation Party from 2:00-5:00pm. All proceeds will go to this great event for our high school seniors.
- Friday 6/11: The Woodbury Community Association hosts its 15th annual golf outing at the Falkirk Golf Course (formerly the Central Valley Golf Course). This is the WCA's biggest fundraiser and enables them to give back to our community in the many ways that they do. The \$150 entry fee includes golf, lunch, dinner, refreshments, shirt, and prizes. Don't golf? You can still help out by sponsoring a hole. Contact Charlie Knuth at 845-781-3084 to register or for more information.
- Saturday 7/3: The Woodbury Firecracker Festival (formerly Woodbury Day) will begin with a 5k cross-country run/walk at 9:30am on the track behind the Central Valley Elementary School. All money raised will go to scholarships and defraying the cost of fireworks; registration forms can be found at woodburyfire.com. The day will continue with a street fair from 10:00-4:00pm and car show from 12:00-6:00pm at the Monroe-Woodbury Middle School; vendor applications can be found at woodburyfirecrackerfestival.com. Finally, the annual fireworks show will fire off at the Monroe-Woodbury fields with the best seating found toward the south end of the area.
- Monday 7/26: 'Tis the season to be a golfer - the Highland Mills Fire Company hosts their annual fundraiser at the Falkirk Golf Course (formerly Central Valley Golf Course). The \$125 entry fee includes golf, breakfast, lunch, cocktails, dinner, shirt, and prizes; visit woodburyfire.com for a registration form. Our fire companies are fully staffed by volunteers and need your support to continue doing the unparalleled work that they do.

*The Woodbury Bulletin Board is written and distributed by and reflects the opinions of James Skoufis, not the Town of Woodbury, Town Board or anyone else.