

Woodbury Bulletin Board - September Issue

By Town Councilman James Skoufis

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As we ring in the start of Autumn, enjoy this month's newsletter.

Always,
James

Your Local Government

- The Town Board received three bids for the new garbage contract set to begin on January 1, 2011 with County Waste ultimately being awarded the bid at a cost of \$1,664,000 for two years (\$832,000 / year). With their return to town comes automated pickup collection, new garbage and recycling bins, and savings to taxpayers; the new contract's cost comes in at a significantly lower price than what we're currently paying.
- As many of you have heard and read, the Village of Woodbury was recently served with annexation papers from a developer would sought to move land from Woodbury into Monroe. The petitions were recently dropped - though avoided this time around, we must remain vigilant and continue to fight against any and all attempts to take our land and resources from us.
- Both the Town and Village of Woodbury have joined Nassau County's lawsuit against the MTA tax. It's my firm belief that the tax is an abomination to the Hudson Valley, our residents, and our businesses - most do not use the MTA's services and those that do do so far less compared to people who live in the city; the Town of Woodbury government alone pays nearly \$20,000 per year. The tax is unfair, unconstitutional, and needs to be repealed, whether in court or by the state legislature.
- Last month the county legislature passed by an 11-10 vote to allow the former Camp LaGuardia property to be incorporated into Orange County Sewer District #1, based out of the Harriman Sewer Treatment Plant. This is yet another harmful decision to come out of Goshen and was opposed by all local municipalities due to the already near-full capacity at the plant. Additionally, none of the towns and villages in the sewer district were adequately consulted before the vote, a characteristic that has become commonplace for our county executive. 2 of Woodbury's 3 legislators voted in our best interest and against the sewer district's expansion: Roxanne Donnery and Kevin Hines.
- Energy audits were recently conducted at all town-owned buildings in an effort to both save taxpayer dollars and reduce our municipal impact on the environment.

Next steps and improvements will be discussed in the near future as Woodbury continues to move forward in becoming a more energy efficient town - you should not wait for us, however, in making similar improvements to your own home and business. Reach out to a local accredited contractor in order to find ways to become greener and save money in the process. Don't hesitate to email me for more information on this.

- A congratulations is in order for Lawrence Menkins, who recently retired as Investigator for the Woodbury Police Department - his longtime service to the community complimented the outstanding efforts of our local force and made our town a safer one for it. Replacing him will be Erik Johnson who was previously an officer for the department and is extremely qualified to take on his new position.
- Over 465 people came to the recent Friends of the Favia Family benefit at the Rez, a tremendous turnout and truly inspiring sign of the supportive community we have here in Woodbury. The money raised for the family will undoubtedly lift a huge burden off of their shoulders as Anthony continues to recover; a letter of thanks from Keren Favia appeared in last week's Photo News:
http://strausnews.com/articles/2010/09/02/photo_news/opinion/4.txt

Woodbury Calendar

- Thursday 9/2: First day of school in the Monroe-Woodbury district.
- Monday 9/6: Have a very happy Labor Day.
- Saturday 9/11: The Monroe-Woodbury Travel Soccer U9B hosts a fundraiser at Pizzeria Uno in Central Valley. Simply advise your server that you are there to support the team and 20% of your bill will go towards them.
- Saturday 9/11: The Monroe-Woodbury Clergy Association will lead a 9/11 memorial service at the Gazebo in Monroe beginning at 7:00pm. Please take a moment to remember all of those who lost their lives on this horrific day nine years ago.
- Tuesday 9/14: Remember to vote - Primary Day determines each party's nominee for the general election. This year there are primaries in the Democratic, Republican, and Conservative Parties - you must be a member of one of these three parties to vote; polls are open from 6:00am-9:00pm.
- Sunday 9/19: The annual St. Patrick's Church parish picnic will take place from 12:00-4:00pm. Food, music, and activities will accompany this year's theme of the path of St. Paul; for more information please call 928-6027.

- Saturday 9/25: Bring your antiques and find out how much they are worth as the Woodbury Historical Society hosts an appraisal at the Senior Center. The event will begin with a presentation by Jenack Estate Appraisers and Auctioneers followed by the appraisals themselves. There's a non-member fee of \$5.00 and member fee of \$4.00 for each item brought; for more information please call 928-6770.

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.