

Newsletter

Juniper Hill Civic Association - March/APRIL 2012

President's Message

Dear Neighbors,

Hard to believe that Spring is already in full swing but this was our Florida winter in New York. With winter's passing the Executive Board celebrated by taking stock of what Juniper Hill issues are still pending.

Our list includes:

- Closing of the open parking area off Russell Street,
- Repaving of Greenvale Circle to be coordinated with Con Edison
- Repaving of Juniper Hill
- Safety for pedestrians walking up Juniper Hill
- Housekeeping issues for the neighborhood related to illegal placement of garbage at the curb on days other than those when it is collected and the lack of covers for said garbage cans
- Ratification of the updated constitution. Copies of the old and revised document are posted on the Juniper Hill website for review <http://sites.google.com/site/juniperhillca>.
- Town regulations regarding the number of people legally allowed to rent rooms in a Juniper Hill residence
- The upcoming School Budget vote and what it means to the taxpayer.
- Sites for the Juniper Hill BBQ. We have a great place in mind. Fingers crossed.

We are happy to look into any other issues you may be experiencing as a member of the Juniper Hill community. Please feel free to contact any of the executive board with your concerns.

Our next **General Membership Meeting** is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 10th at 7:30 pm** in **Town Hall**. I hope you will join us. We expect to have David Warner, from the School Board as a guest speaker to help clarify the new School Budget.

Best regards,
Sue Mirialakis

Executive Board

President - Sue Mirialakis
 Vice President - Alphonso Leonce
 Treasurer - Arthur Chisolm
 Recording Secretary - Millicent Stewart
 Corresponding Secretary - Seth Segall
 Member-at-large - Illayne Parker

In and Around Juniper Hill**Traffic**

Results of our traffic safety investigation and discussions with Town authorities.

- **Fulton and Prospect:** Al's Moving Trucks block sight lines on the streets. The officer in charge of Traffic Safety visited the site and found no problem with sight lines, but did stop in to advise Al that complaints had been made and to try harder to keep the intersection free of trucks. Al agreed to do this pointing out that his employees are careful not to block the intersection. We shall see.
- **Prospect:** Parking for the Repair Shop creates a problem for residents trying to get through this area of the street. This is an ongoing dilemma for the repair shop as well as the residents who use that street as there is very little parking there, but they agreed to try to keep the street open.
- **Greenvale Circle:** Pot holes are a constant problem on this street. It needs to be repaved. Supervisor Paul Feiner and Public Works Commissioner Victor Carosi attended our October meeting and promised to repave the street in the Spring. A result of further communication, Mr. Feiner and Mr. Carosi reaffirmed their promise to repave Greenvale Circle and to coordinate with work planned by Con Edison.

Newsletter

Juniper Hill Civic Association - October 2012

- Juniper Hill and Walnut: Bushes make it hard to look for oncoming traffic. Bushes were pruned but as you know this is an ongoing process. We believe the new owner of the house will be responsible for this task.
- Sight lines on curve of Juniper Hill at the top coming from Russell St. Police chief advised us to do this ourselves. Our request for this to be done by traffic safety was denied even though the JHCA offered to purchase the mirror.

Schools

This year's School Budget Vote is coming up on May 15. As you know, last year's Budget was defeated twice and our schools were operating on austerity this past year and into June. Austerity is never a comfortable alternative to sound fiscal management. Rather it is an indication that the community is not happy with the current state of affairs and the District needs to take a good hard look at the way it operates and a better job of communicating with taxpayers.

Austerity means:

- No new equipment for after school programs and sports programs.
- No buses for students using after school programs.
- No new books to replace old worn out texts.
- No materials like paper, pencils, art supplies, etc.
- Cuts in teaching staff and educational programs.

School taxes and the quality of education offered affect the entire community. We are all busy and those of us whose children no longer attend often lose touch with what is happening to our schools. We see our taxes continue to rise and think the school budget or the Town Budget is too high. We voice our displeasure by voting against these budgets or the candidates we hold responsible for the tax rate.

Many of us are uninformed voters or just plain don't vote. Last year's Budget votes only represented the views of 1000 people of the 14,000 registered to vote. We see what is happening in Washington and Wisconsin, Michigan and

other areas of the nation where an active and vocal minority is doing its best to take care of the interests of the 1%. We need to do a better job of understanding the situation and a better job of communicating our concerns and needs to those in authority. This is not a one-way street. The District made a number of changes this year including a new, more informative Web site, a citizens commission to study the budget and much more.

Our children are the lifeblood of our community and our property values depend upon how well we take care of them. Please make it your business to find out what is currently happening rather than accept rumor and old news as gospel.

Come to our meeting on April 10th. It may surprise you!

JUNIPER HILL WELCOME SIGNAGE

Volunteers are needed to plant and maintain JHCA garden below welcome signs. The signs one sees upon entering Juniper Hill at both ends of the street require tender loving care from Spring into Fall. We have an arrangement with the Fire Chief for watering the sign by the golf course as of this year and watering is done automatically by the home owners for the other sign. The work is minimal requiring only a bit of planting in Spring and weeding every so often. The reward is the lovely sight that greets you each time to enter and exit the hill. Please call Sue at 914-448-0035.

Nominations for the most amazing accomplishment by a Distinguished Juniper Hill Resident are now open.

If you know of anyone who has done something really wonderful in the past year, we'd like to hear about this person. Many of our residents do outstanding work affecting the community and most of us don't know about it until we read their obituaries. It's time to recognize the incredible resources we have in this community.

We look forward to your input.