

Newsletter

Juniper Hill Civic Association - January- March 2013

President's Message

The Winter of 2012-2013 will go down in history as one of the most challenging in history.

Juniper Hill residents weathered Hurricane Sandy and worked with the Town to do what we could to ensure our power, telephone and other services were restored as quickly as possible. Many residents left to stay with friends and relatives during the 9 day outage. Those who toughed it out were not forgotten and those of us in other places checked in regularly and did what we could to help.

Clearly, there is a need for a better way to communicate especially during emergency situations. Further, Juniper Hill should be pulling together to help those residents in our community who need a hand or to make sure some of our older residents who may not be as mobile as others are not left to manage for long periods without help if they need it.

Clearing lots of heavy snow is not easy even when one is physically fit. It would be really amazing if we could organize a group of resident angels to check up on some of our seniors and for others, who have the means, to see about helping to clear snow or salt walks of those who cannot do so for themselves.

There are challenges to those of us whose houses front the new walkways put in by the Town last fall. The Town says homeowners have a responsibility to keep those walkways clear. Not so easy on the upper part of Juniper Hill where walkways are narrow and snowplows have no place to put snow. Any suggestions as to how this might be accomplished will be welcomed.

Our next General Membership Meeting is scheduled for Monday evening March 18 at 7:30 pm at Town Hall. Please try to make it. Paul Feiner has agreed to talk about several Town initiatives that will impact all of us. We will have a full agenda including biennial election of officers, so come on out. I look forward to seeing you there!

•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

Contact: 914-448-0035

Juniper Hill Community Emergency Preparedness Plan

Calling all members who wish to work on developing such a plan!!!

Goals:

- To develop a better way to communicate during emergency situations. The JHCA Executive Board is interested in ways people can manage to charge cell phones and power other vital machines during power outages. There are a number of options out there:
 - Small battery packs to power cell phones
 - Standby generators -portable and otherwise.
 - Solar panels tied into a storage battery.

If anyone has investigated this, please let us know what you have found or have implemented.

- To develop an emergency contact system.
- To develop a strong liaison mechanism with Town emergency services.
- To find a better way to get action from Con Edison for our community.

Did we leave anything out? Let us know!

You can contact us in several ways:

Email us at junipercivic@gmail.com or sign up for Nextdoor Juniper Hill our new community forum at: <http://juniperhillgreenburgh.nextdoor.com>. Everyone on Juniper Hill should have received a snail mail invitation from Next Door to sign up. It is free and provides an online forum for residents to communicate similar to FaceBook only just for us the residents of Juniper Hill.

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Accomplishments in 2012

We had an amazing and challenging 2012 and 2013 is here. There's a great deal to remember about 2012 and much we'd like to forget.

On Juniper Hill we saw many improvements to our streets that improved pedestrian safety and other changes were begun:

- Parking lot on Russell Street was closed.
- Greenvale Circle was surveyed by engineers to begin the process of replacing the water mains that have caused so many problems over the past five years.
- Temporary paving was put down on Greenvale Circle
- New curbs and walkways from the bottom of Russell St. to the top of Juniper Hill.
- The Town was to repave Juniper Hill Road, but hurricane Sandy had other ideas so that is unfortunately delayed.
- Bushes obstructing vision and growing over the walkways were cut back on Juniper Hill and Russell St.
- Signs will be installed on Greenvale Circle to prevent commercial through traffic from using it and Juniper Hill Road as a shortcut to Central Avenue.
- Storm drains and catch basins were cleaned out to help prevent flooding during big storms.
- Town built up curbs on 1st Street to help direct water sheeting off the parking lot at Lee F. Jackson School into catch basins and down along the curbs as a means of helping to lessen flooding for residents living just below this area.

The JHCA hosted a terrific Barbecue through our good neighbors on Saratoga and 2nd St. Our children were treated to a balloon magician and a face painter in addition to lots of fun games and lots of wonderful food supplied by JHCA and members who cooked in 97 degree heat! Check out the photos on our website <http://sites.google/site/juniperhillca>.

Going Forward

What programs would you like to see the Juniper Hill Civic Association tackle? Let us know.

This year promises to be full of new challenges and lots of good things.

We will continue to:

- Monitor our schools and maintain a dialog with our legislators.
- Maintain an active presence with Town officials to ensure that Juniper Hill projects such as the replacement of the water main on Greenvale Circle are carried out expeditiously.
- Follow-up to ensure items on our list of to dos that resulted from Hurricane Sandy are addressed such as the leaning utility pole at the top of Juniper Hill. Con Edison needs to replace or fix it and work has begun.
- Follow-up on the Town's promise to trim back the tree canopies on Greenvale Circle and Juniper Hill Road.
- Ensure that Juniper Hill Road is repaved this year.

What would you like to see addressed? We may not be able to get everything done, but we will try. We can use your help and support and that of your neighbors too. We are stronger as a united community than as individuals, so if we want to make Juniper Hill the best possible place to live and raise our families, we need to do it together.

Question: Is anyone considering installing a Solar panel system? Tell us why and what system you plan to install. There are some amazing incentives and government programs that make it virtually free to do this now. The addition of a back up battery could be helpful during power failures. We'd like to hear what you are thinking about or doing.

Meeting

Monday, March 18th

7:30 pm

Town Hall 177 Hillside Avenue