

WEST ISLIP ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

wiassociation@yahoo.com

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West Islip Association Asks for Your Help

We are all aware that the financial health of our community has been affected by the current economic downturn. Several businesses in our community are trying to continue to service our needs. WIA encourages West Islip residents to do their shopping in our community. Our Mom and Pop stores have been around for a long time and if they are to survive, they will need our help and our loyalty. Please consider their plights when shopping. They can be alive and

well with our support. Consider your local vendors as Spring arrives and the search is on for ways to revitalize our sun-deprived landscapes.

To the Shop Owners, we ask that you do your best to keep your sites attractive and appealing. If you need help in cleaning the areas, WIA will do its part in trying to find civic minded residents willing to dress up the areas around your establishments.

Happenings

WIA members have been attending Town Hall Planning Board meetings which focus on properties in West Islip in the process of refurbishing, demolishing or rebuilding. The progress regarding the following properties has been followed by our directors.

LaGrange

The owners maintain that the property is not for sale. A lease agreement is their goal and there have been some inquiries.

Stop and Shop

As reported in the *WestIslipTribune.com*, Stop & Shop's facelift plans have been approved by the Town. The configuration of the store will be significantly altered and the increase in size will be reflected in the hiring of forty additional employees.

Stop & Shop has planned to re-position the loading docks to a space somewhat more remote from the homes on Everdell Avenue.

Higbie Lane

The crosswalk sign remains in place and there have been no further collisions with the post. Legislator Tom Barraga has suggested that the street paths be made more identifiable to pedestrians and motorists by painting the crosswalks or using the brick face pattern.

Dzus

WIA will report on the Real Estate closing when it is completed.

Moose Lodge

The plans are in the process of being revised to include a different footprint. Demolition has not yet been started. A Planning Board meeting may be in the offing on April 30th.

Babylon Ford

The buildings on the site have been razed. Mr. John Pace has been very forthcoming regarding the architecture of any building to be erected. He seems to be willing to conform with the colonial character that is so aesthetically appealing in our most recent structures.

Pride Automotive

The new business on the southeast corner of Higbie Lane and Union Boulevard seems to be open. We wish them good luck!

West Islip Florist

West Islip florist property appears to be for sale. A WIA member has contacted a gentleman interested in the 80 X 250 parcel. The prospective buyer and owner have been in communication with each other. More to follow.

Everdell/KingKullen

WIA members have spoken with Majestic Property Management (King Kullen and Blockbuster shopping centers). The management has ordered new signs for the parcels and it has contacted LIPA regarding installation of new dusk-to-dawn lighting for the rear of the complexes. These lights will shine more brightly and should better serve as a deterrent to loitering, littering, graffiti and mayhem,. A general cleanup and repair of the whole area is to be scheduled Power washing, landscaping, replacement of broken concrete trash receptacles are all items to be addressed. Majestic has also promised vigorous prosecution of anyone caught on camera vandalizing or participating in illegal activities. The management agency seems very willing to cooperate with us.

Clam Distributorship

The owner of 37 Hawley Avenue holds a license for the clam distributor business and the operation is legal. The building/home is roughly 100 years old and has an established use for that property dating back quite some time. While there is no Certificate of Occupancy for the property relating to its current business use, it is just a technicality. Whenever the distributor does move forward to obtain the C O, it will be granted by the town due to established prior use.

A Code Enforcement Inspector has visited the property. He advised the owner of the obvious code violations, ie: commercial vehicles parked outside storing clams. Violations will be addressed and there will be compliance with town regulations.

Montauk Highway

There is an ongoing speed survey of the Montauk Highway/Oak Neck Lane area. It is hoped that the speed limit will be reduced and signage will be in place on that strip.

Paul J. Bellew

Traffic is being monitored along Higbie Lane in front of the Elementary School because of excessive speed of vehicles along that stretch.

Oak Neck Deli

There have been reports that some fencing is down and cars with FOR SALE signs are on the property.

Audi

Approval of the Audi property proposal has been reserved by the Town Planning Board. Plans include an increase in the landscaping from 1% to 20%.

The Country Deli

The plans for the site at Hawley Avenue and Higbie Lane have been approved. WIA is not privy to the time line at present.

Best Yet

Closing on the property on Higbie Drive and Sears Road is anticipated within the next two months. The buyer is expected to develop the property for resale.

West Islip Beach

A public hearing dealing with the West Islip Beach will be held in the West Islip American Legion Hall in June.

After Hours

WIA would like to remind West Islip teenagers that the YMCA and YES have a number of programs that may be worth checking out.

Higbie Community Center Library/Museum

The West Islip Museum first opened June 1977 at 6 Udall Road, then moved to the Higbie Lane School in 1982. Several years later, a storm caused leaks and flooding in the George Weeks Memorial Library just across the hall. To protect the rare old books and documents in that library, many items were quickly moved to the museum. In their haste, the workers left clutter, making the museum unusable. The library remained in disrepair, so the museum items could not be returned there. In late December 2008, Legislator Barraga and Councilman Flotteron agreed to help the West Islip Historical Society and the Sagtikos Historical Society repair the Library and then bring the Museum back into service. Volunteers are ready to begin moving items as soon as repairs are complete.

Please call 911 or contact SCPD COPE Unit at 854-8308 or 854-8390 if you see some questionable activity..

To follow West Islip Association activities, go to westislipassociation.blogspot.com or access The West Islip Tribune, the community's online newspaper.
