



www.westnorwalk.org

### Board of Directors:

Board@westnorwalk.org

Joel Zaremby-President  
6 Old Rock Lane  
838-7194

President@westnorwalk.org

Bob Wagman-Vice President  
36 Morehouse Lane  
852-9332  
bwagman@westnorwalk.org

Galen Wells-Secretary  
224 West Norwalk Road  
866-9045  
gwells@westnorwalk.org

Chris Potts  
Corresponding Secretary  
73 Nursery Street  
847-5824  
cpotts@westnorwalk.org

Linda Forcellina-Treasurer  
6 Betmarlea Road  
838-3444  
jforcellina@westnorwalk.org

Ron Brown  
89 West Norwalk Road  
rbrown@westnorwalk.org

Jeff Danziger  
282 Richards Avenue  
jdzaniger@westnorwalk.org

Margaret Karl  
19 Betmarlea Road

Regina Krummel  
21 Little Fox Lane  
rkrummel@westnorwalk.org

Martin O'Connell  
12 Coachmans Court  
moconnell@westnorwalk.org

Ron Paladino  
14 Redcoat Road  
rpaladino@westnorwalk.org

Candide Valadares  
6 Styles Lane  
cvaladares@westnorwalk.org

## Autumn 2010 Newsletter

### A Letter from the President

Our annual meeting this year is Sunday September 26<sup>th</sup>, 3-6pm at Dolce International Center, 32 Weed Avenue, West Norwalk. Come hear and meet our local candidates, city officials and speak with your neighbors. We are inviting our district Connecticut State House and Senate candidates as well as our U.S. Congressional candidates to meet the association members (all residents of West Norwalk are automatically members). In addition, the candidates will be given the opportunity to address the meeting for a period of two minutes each. Chief Denis McCarthy of the Norwalk Fire Department will also provide an update of the purchase of new hoses for our community and how it can lead to a re-rating of our fire insurance. Also at the meeting, Mayor Richard Moccia of Norwalk will be answering questions sent in by members and preselected by the board in a section we call "Ask The Mayor". If you have an issue or question you would like the Mayor to respond to please send the question to President@westnorwalk.org. The board will select the issues generating the most interest as questions that I will ask the Mayor at the meeting. There will not be any interaction with the Mayor by the audience during the Ask the Mayor section of the meeting. Residents are free to address the Mayor after the formal part of the meeting during food and cocktails or by follow up email to him. Enjoy light refreshments while we reflect on what our dues were able to contribute to the West Norwalk community in 2010. A few of these include:

WNA sponsored a baseball team in the Norwalk Cal Ripken League –T Ball for age 5. Our team is very sporty in a blue shirt/cap/ with our West Norwalk Association name written on the uniform. Feel free to go cheer our team to win!



Team WNA !!!



Joel and Principal Martinez of Fox Run

WNA in line with supporting our local community elementary school Fox Run made a generous gift of a check to contribute to the purchase of Smart Screens for the classrooms. In addition, several of our board members have donated their time and service as mentors to help tutor and read to students.

We hope you notice our two "Adopt a Spots" located at Hunter's Lane and Fillow Street (opposite Fox Run School) filled with pretty summer flowers.

Our participation in Keep Norwalk Beautiful Day resulted in a super turnout of residents and incredible litter cleanup.

The West Norwalk Association in the spirit of being good neighbors and in these tough economic times would like to offer to help clean up yards (only West Norwalk residents). Selection will be based on financial or health needs. Please contact the WNA Board.

Our 2009 Holiday party had its largest turnout ever demonstrating continued neighborhood interest in our organization.

I hope to personally welcome each and every one of you to Dolce for our annual meeting. All the best,

Joel Zaremby  
President

**THE FIVE MILE RIVER**

By Bob Wagman

Pogo said it, "We have met the enemy and he is us." River flooding is the result of many factors, e.g., pollutants entering the water course, loss of permeable land due to over building, normal silting and dumping of foreign materials. It's no secret that our efforts to obtain remedial action from the City for the serious flooding conditions from the Five Mile River we have experienced have been unsuccessful. However, we had hoped that we had created awareness among West Norwalkers that the river must be treated with respect and that includes no dumping of materials (including leaves/branches/grass clippings/paint/garbage) of any kind. We've had a very recent event wherein a neighbor (not knowing this was a violation) tried to build up a riverbank by dumping soil into the river. The City's Conservation Officer was advised of this event, the neighbor was cited for his illegal action and directed to correct the condition. If you have any questions about what actions are legal or not, we suggest that you go to the Norwalk web site at <http://www.norwalkct.org/> and go to City Departments/ Conservation Office.



The news is not all bad. The Southwestern Regional Planning Association (SWRPA) has obtained some grant money and has hired a consultant to prepare a Watershed Management Plan for the Saugatuck, Mianus and Five Mile Rivers. The basis of the plan is to study the health of these watersheds and to recommend improvement scenarios. Some of the conditions that cause unhealthy water bodies may also contribute to flooding and hopefully, corrective action will benefit all of us. The target is to complete the plan in 18 months and any follow through on corrective actions will take longer. It's a start.

**CANDIDE**  
CONTRACTOR

LANDSCAPING & WATER GARDENS, LLC

**(203) 847-0300**  
**Fax: (203)604 8484**

Mail to; [info@candidelandscaping.com](mailto:info@candidelandscaping.com)  
Web; [www.candidelandscaping.com](http://www.candidelandscaping.com)

**SLH & ASSOCIATES, INC**  
**ARCHITECTURAL AND INTERIOR DESIGNS**  
**GENERAL CONTRACTORS, STEPHEN L HORVATH, PRESIDENT**  
**FULLY LICENSED & INSURED NHC # 0005209 & HIC#0581617**

203-656-6656 \* 203 866-6656 \* 203-656-4464 (fax)  
EMAIL US @ [SLHORVATH@AOL.COM](mailto:SLHORVATH@AOL.COM) \* visit [www.slhdevelopers.com](http://www.slhdevelopers.com)

New Home Designs, Plans & Permits General Contractors & Project Managers, Kitchen & Bath Designers & Remodelers, Pools & Rec. Areas & Zoning Permits Cad Drafting & 3-D Modeling & Renderings

**BEACON CAPITAL, LLC**

REGISTERED INVESTMENT ADVISOR

**ROBERT B. DAVIES**  
**PRINCIPAL**

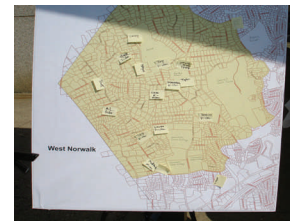
3 PARKLAND DRIVE  
DARIEN, CT 06820

TEL: 203-662-3416  
FAX: 203-662-3425

EMAIL: [BOB@BEACONCAPITALLLC.COM](mailto:BOB@BEACONCAPITALLLC.COM)

**KEEP NORWALK BEAUTIFUL CLEAN UP DAY-SPONSORED BY WEST NORWALK ASSOCIATION** By Gay Mac Leod

The KNB (Keep Norwalk Beautiful) offers a simple mission. Improve your community by litter prevention, beautification, waste reduction and cleaning up litter. On April 24<sup>th</sup>, the day brought together neighbors, families, school children and politicians to select a street, use our free gloves/garbage bags/litter pickers and clean our streets/grounds/woods. We collected over 60 bags of garbage and West Norwalk was litter free. A successful example of WNA "Do Good Actions".

**ANOTHER PLEA FOR MEMBERSHIP-2010**

Again, this is an ongoing plea for all of the residents of West Norwalk to pay their annual dues for 2010. As of this writing, fewer than 200 households have actually paid the 2010 dues. Considering that there are nearly 1400 households in the West Norwalk community, the percentage of actual paid members is disturbingly low. Please keep in mind that all of the dues collected go directly into the activities of the Association; the Directors serve without compensation and some even incur Association related expenses without seeking reimbursement. Our sole source of income is the dues. So, please, if you have not yet paid your 2010 dues, do so now by completing the application for membership, included in this newsletter, and mail it as indicated with your check.

Linda Forcellina, Treasurer

**[www.westnorwalk.org](http://www.westnorwalk.org)**

**WHAT'S IN A NAME?** By Linda Forcellina

As residents of West Norwalk, Jim and I drive daily on Fillow Street, as I am sure many of you do. Have you, like us, ever wondered where the name Fillow originated? Moreover, we have lived on Betmarlea Road for many years—a name we always have to spell and one which hardly anyone understands or knows how to pronounce. Well, the person to ask for answers to these and many other questions about our community is Margaret Fillow Karl, our neighbor.

According to family genealogy, John Fillow, a Huguenot, was the first of his family to settle in this area in the 1700's. By the time of Margaret's grandfather, Frederick Gregory Fillow, the family owned property on the front side of Betmarlea; areas where the Congregational Church and rectory are now; houses next to the church on Richards Avenue; the two oldest homes on the other side of Richards Avenue; and some property on West Norwalk Road. Interestingly, Pearl Morehouse Fillow came from the family who owned a farm on West Norwalk Road and that is how Morehouse Lane got its name.

As for Betmarlea, the name was given to honor the girls in Margaret's family: Betty (Bet); Margaret (mar); Natalie (le); Sarah Jane (a). Each of the children received an acre from their grandfather and three built homes on Betmarlea. Margaret still lives in the home she and her husband Maurice built with their own hands and moved into in 1953.

The other part of Betmarlea was owned by the Sprague family who had a dog boarding kennel in open fields. In fact, Margaret remembers her husband hunting for pheasants where we live now. Mr. Sprague sold the land to Jules Donahue who sold the topsoil and then the gravel, making the street level many feet lower than the original land. The Holy Ghost Fathers' brook ran through this area all the way to St. John Cemetery and contained spring fed water so clean that it could be drunk. The three ponds on Betmarlea are still fed by these same springs although, needless to say, the water is no longer drinkable.

Margaret Karl has many other fascinating memories of West Norwalk, including traveling to Washington Elementary School on the one bus which held all of the school children who lived in our community. Perhaps, in future Newsletters we can include other stories to give us all more information about the history of this lovely area that we call home.



**Prudential**

**Fira Wagman**  
Fine Homes Specialist

**Connecticut Realty**  
Direct: 203-899-3227  
Cell: 203-858-4554  
fwagman@prudentialct.com  
203-857-7842  
fwagman@prudentialct.com  
www.prudentialCT.com

An independently owned and operated member of Prudential Real Estate Affiliates, Inc.



**WNA AMBASSADOR PROGRAM**

Your Board of Directors has been discussing means to make our organization more efficient and to communicate with the West Norwalk community in a more personal and less expensive way. Our decision is to ask for volunteers who will serve as neighborhood ambassadors. These people would communicate with families on a street or streets of their choice to encourage membership, attendance at functions of the West Norwalk organization, and activities such as the spring cleanup of our neighborhoods. Won't you consider becoming an ambassador? You might meet neighbors whom you would otherwise never get to know. At the annual meeting at Dolce on September 26, our president will present some new directions for the association, this program being one of the most important. We will have sign up sheets at that time. Please consider what you can do to help.



**ANTARES RENOVATION**

Complete Home Interior & Exterior Renovation Services

- Painting, stains, faux marble and special finishes.
- Carpentry, frame & trim work, crown moldings, wood floors.
- Bathroom & Kitchen remodeling.
- All types of stone, mason work and brick pavers.
- All types of wrought iron, hand rails, gates, fences and balconies.

**Mauricio Lucio** Telephone: 914-620-3728  
E-Mail: mlucio21@hotmail.com

**Licensed and Insured**

**Rent the West Norwalk Meeting House for your event.**

For information contact  
Kate Johnson 203-838-3871



This is the perfect place to host your next party or event. Parking along West Norwalk Road has never posed a problem to neighbors or the city. Your rental will help support the preservation of this historic gem in West Norwalk. Donations needed and welcome: West Norwalk Meeting House Society c/o Thomas Aikenhead 82 Ledgebrook Drive, Norwalk, CT 06854 (Donations are Tax Deductible)

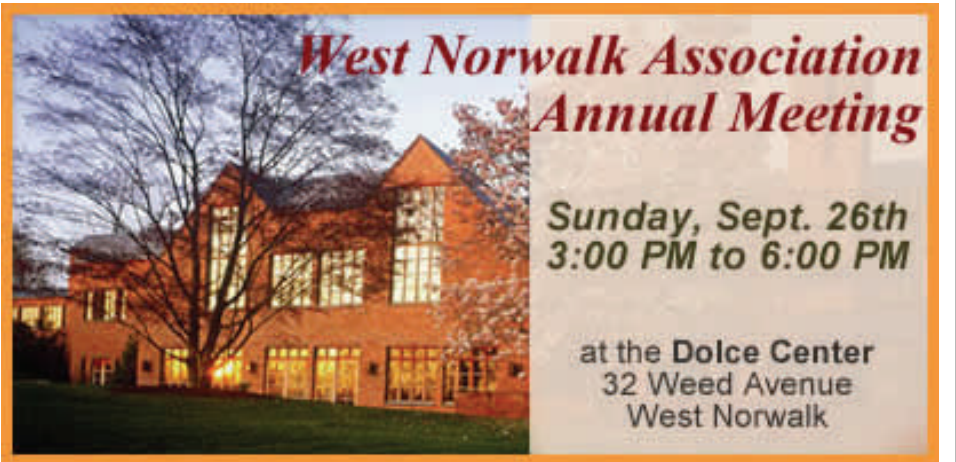


[www.westnorwalk.org](http://www.westnorwalk.org)

**PO Box 381  
Norwalk, CT 06852-0381**

**PRST STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
NORWALK CT  
PERMIT NO 22**

The West Norwalk Association Annual Meeting is on Sunday September 26 from 3-6pm at Dolce located at 32 Weed Avenue, West Norwalk, CT. We are inviting our district Connecticut State House and Senate candidates as well as our U.S. Congressional candidates to meet the association members (all residents of West Norwalk are automatically members). In addition, the candidates will be given the opportunity to address the meeting for a period of two minutes each. Chief Denis McCarthy of the Norwalk Fire Department will also provide an update of the purchase of new hoses for our community and how it can lead to a re-rating of our fire insurance. Also at the meeting, Mayor Richard Moccia of Norwalk will be answering questions sent in by members and preselected by the board in a section we call "Ask The Mayor". If you have an issue or question you would like the Mayor to respond to please send the question to [President@westnorwalk.org](mailto:President@westnorwalk.org). The board will select the issues generating the most interest as questions that I will ask the Mayor at the meeting. There will not be any interaction with the Mayor by the audience during the Ask the Mayor section of the meeting. Residents are free to address the Mayor after the formal part of the meeting during food and cocktails or by follow up email to him.



**Food and refreshments will be abundant. We hope you can attend.**

All the best,  
Joel Zaremby, President, West Norwalk Association