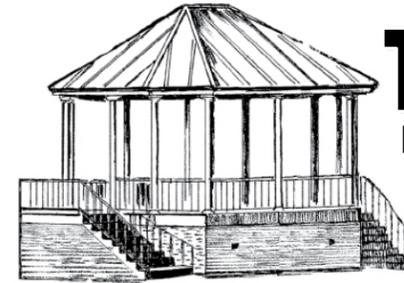
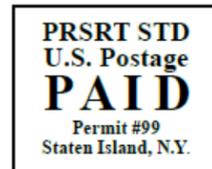


Westerleigh Improvement Society, Inc.
P.O.Box 140-043
Staten Island, NY 10314
www.wisonline.org



THE VOICE OF WESTERLEIGH

NEWSLETTER OF THE WESTERLEIGH IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY

P.O. Box 140-043 Staten Island, NY 10314 www.wisonline.org

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Serving the Community for 121 years

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

Borough Hall Helpline:
(718) 816-2000

120th Precinct:
(718) 876-8500

121 Precinct:
(718) 697-8700

Congressman Michael Grimm
(718) 351-1062

State Senator Andrew Lanza
(718) 984-4073

Assemblyman Michael Cusick
(718) 370-1384

Assemblyman Matthew Titone
(718) 442-9932

49th District Council Member Debi Rose
(718) 556-7370

50th District Council Member Steven Matteo
(718) 980-1017

Public School 30:
(718) 442-0462

Community Board #1:
(718) 981-6900

Westerleigh Improvement Society, Inc.

Officers:

President... Mike Morrell
Vice President... Mark Anderson
Treasurer... Ed Malone
Secretary... Frances Genereux

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please enroll me as a member of

Westerleigh Improvement Society Inc.

P.O. Box 140-043, Staten Island NY 10314

ANNUAL DUES:

Regular Membership \$10 Associate Membership \$20

Membership # _____

(3 digit number from upper left of mailing label)

Name: _____

Address _____

Phone # (optional) _____

Email _____

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

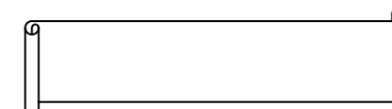
I hope your summer was relaxing and that you were able to enjoy our beautiful community and many of the activities that took place in Westerleigh Park.

We are about to experience some of the infrastructure improvement that has been written about in our newsletter recently. First is the DEP storm sewer project on Jewett Avenue beginning at Kingsley Avenue. Preparation work is already underway. Normally a meeting is held before the contractor begins the main project to inform the community of traffic and other changes. As we receive information from the DEP we will forward it to you.

Our Westerleigh street survey has been completed and we have forwarded the results to Council Member Steven Matteo and the DOT. We hope to have some of the improvements in street and sign conditions evident soon.

Our monthly meetings have resumed at the Immanuel Union Church (the first Tuesday of each month). Please try to attend one. Vice President Mark Anderson has prepared a series of *Westerleigh Talks* presented prior to meetings that describe the history of our community. They are well researched and all are welcome to attend.

As always, please contact us if there is an issue you feel we can assist you with.



Zoning Concerns

During the past few months many on Staten Island have watched with dismay the destruction of Mt. Manresa and the planned 250 units of fully attached housing that will occupy the 15 acres of bucolic landscape. The high density is allowed by the zoning attached to the property many years ago: R3-2. This allows the property owner to construct so many homes on the parcel.

We can be assured that such a development can never be built in our community. In 2008, through the office of former Council Member Michael McMahon with the support of then-Council Member James Oddo and Borough President James Molinaro, the Westerleigh Improvement Society was able to request the rezoning a large part of Westerleigh for single family homes only. The zoning designation is R2.

After careful review of all of the zoning maps of Westerleigh, it was discovered that there is an area bounded by Victory Boulevard, O'Connor Avenue, Marble Street and Byrne Avenue that is zoned R3-2. This would permit the construction of attached homes, such as the ones being built at Mt. Manresa. Most of the area currently has one-

family homes with a sprinkling of duplexes.

However, one parcel stands out with more than 237,000 square feet of land: 2187 Victory Blvd. The Society of St. Paul has a large piece of vacant land that could be developed at some future date with fully attached housing. The impact of such density on our community would be horrendous.

Over the summer the Society has met with Council Member Steven Matteo concerning this issue. He has requested an evaluation by the Department of City Planning with the goal of rezoning the area described above to the R2 zoning we have in the bulk of Westerleigh. We shall keep you posted as to the results of the evaluation.

Westerleigh Website Updating

In the next few weeks our Society website will be updated. We have been in touch with our Webmaster and she will be changing graphics and photos.

Members who wish to have a street tree planted in front of their home, please contact the Society.

Westerleigh Shirt



For a limited time we will be offering our green Westerleigh short sleeve shirt to all for purchase. The official WIS logo is embossed on the left side and the shirt is available in S-M-L-XL sizes. The cost is \$15 per shirt payable in advance. Please contact Evelyn MacDonald (718) 727-2057 for more details.

In Memoriam Richard Cirbus

The Society notes with great sadness the passing on August 12 of our longtime Membership Chairman Richard Cirbus. Rich computerized all of our membership records and was responsible for the membership renewal process each year. It is a daunting task for a civic group with more than 600 members. In addition, he did the layout for each issue of our newsletter for the past nine years. Rich also did the setup on computer for our history [Westerleigh: The Town That Temperance Built.](#)

We shall miss him greatly.

Westerleigh Street Survey

At our annual meeting in May it was announced that the Society would conduct a survey of all of Westerleigh's streets. That survey would examine street pavement conditions, street signs and painted lineage. The survey was completed by the end of June and submitted to Council Member Steven Matteo and DOT Borough Commissioner Tom Cocola. The survey was then turned over the DOT's Street Maintenance Unit for assessment.

More than 50 street signs were either faded or missing. In addition, a dozen streets were recommended for resurfacing. The Society would like to thank Richard Ladiana for spending many hours surveying much of Westerleigh during the months of May and June.

Patriotic Spirit



Many thanks to Fran and Frank Reali of Safari Realty for distributing the American flags throughout Westerleigh for Independence Day.