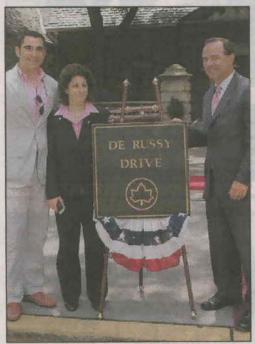# Boro beat

Among the first admirers of the newly-minted "De Russy Drive" are Christian Zaine, president and founder, Dyker Heights Historical Society; Fran Vella-Marrone, president, Dyker Heights Civic Association; and New York City Parks Commisisoner Adrian Benepe (from left).

'DE RUSSY DRIVE' MAKES ITS OFFICIAL DE

The engineer under whose direction Fort Hamilton was built, and whose estate became what is today known as the community of Dyker Heights, was immortalized when local historians and activists joined forces to co-name the street in front of the Dyker Beach Golf Course "De Russy Drive" after General Rene E. De Russy (1789-1865).

New York City Parks Commissioner Adrian Benepe joined members of the Dyker Heights Civic Association and the Dyker Heights Historical Society, both of which spearheaded the co-naming, for a pomp-filled ceremony at 7th Avenue and 86th Street to mark the accomplishments of the former local land baron. The festivities were part of a gala celebration for the newly-renovated historic Dyker Beach Golf Course Clubhouse, sponsored by American Golf in partnership with Parks.

According to the Register's Office of Kings County, De Russy purchased land from James and Jane Cropsey on July 31, 1827, now part of block 6278, bound by 11th and 12th avenues between 80th and 81st streets.

De Russy and Cropsey struck up a friendship after both inspected the stone masons' work at the New Utrecht Church during its construction in 1828, but De Russy's most significant land acquisition came four years later when he bought eight acres of woodland from John and Cathy Van Brunt for the sum of $318.75. That parcel of land traveled across the current street grid, covering most of 83rd and 82nd streets between 11th and 12th avenues.

A splendid makeover transforms the clubhouse, set first golf courses, into a dazzling venue for weddings, other special occasions.

Dignitaries, grassroots gladiators and industry offic the $11 million clubhouse.