

Next meeting: Dec. 10 at 8:00 PM

This Meeting is held at Living Hope Christian Church, Braddock Avenue at 241st Street



Creedmoor Civic News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CREEDMOOR CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
Founded 1927, Incorporated 1938

DECEMBER, 2018 ★ "UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN" ★ Website: www.creedmoorcivic.org ★ VOL. 87, NO. 10

QUEENS CIVIC CONGRESS TACKLES MYRIAD ISSUES

On December 2, the Queens Civic Congress swore in its officers for the coming year. They are taking on numerous issues of concern to Queens residents.

The event was held at the beautiful and historic Douglaston Club, a private yacht club located in the Douglaston Historic District. The club was originally a private home built in 1819.

Kevin Forrestal of the Hillcrest Estate Civic Association is continuing as president. He outlined the QCC's efforts to fight the congestion pricing proposed for cars entering Manhattan below 96th Street. This is a back-door effort to put tolls on the East River bridges since there is no way you can use the East River bridges where they enter Manhattan and not get charged the congestion fee which will be activated by photos taken of your license plate. This is an unfair treatment of outer borough residents and only affects those who drive. Many cannot use mass transit for a variety of reasons, so the QCC has declared this fee an unfair tax that should not be visited on only a segment of the population. The money raised will be used to fix the crumbling subways.

The closing of Rikers Island and its replacement with jails in local neighborhoods is also opposed by the QCC. The QCC is working with groups in other boroughs to oppose this project that will cost billions but for which there is no evidence will eliminate the violent culture that currently



Officers and board members line up on the grand stairs of the Douglaston Club as they are sworn in by Borough President Melinda Katz.

exists between inmates and correctional staff.

Also on the horizon, the City has decided to scrap the entire real estate tax formula and start over. How this will affect Class 1 homes such as ours is not known yet, but there is a likelihood that our taxes will go up because there is long standing belief that Class 1 properties have enjoyed tax favoritism. There is an old political saying that real estate taxes are the third rail of politics. But that has always been a reference to the real estate taxes of one-family homes.

Everyone is holding their breath on this issue and many lawsuits will probably follow no matter who benefits. Co-op apartment owners have long complained they are overtaxed relative to single-family homes.

GUEST SPEAKERS AT DECEMBER MEETING
Officers from the 105 Precinct Domestic Abuse
Unit will be our guest speakers for the
December meeting.
Free refreshments - bring a neighbor

Creedmoor Civic News

Published Since 1931
Published 10 times per year by the Creedmoor Civic Assn., Inc.
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<http://www.facebook.com/creedmoor.civic>

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President's Message

Belmont Redevelopment

We are waiting for the final State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR), expected to be released by year end. The SEQR must then be carefully analyzed to be sure it is accurate and comprehensive, including the project's impact the traffic. We will work with elected officials and other community groups to determine the proper response.

Surveillance Camera Registration

The NYPD and the 105th Precinct are continuing to lower the crime rate. Footage from video surveillance systems has been a key to solving crimes and making arrests. Deputy Inspector Gilbert has asked us to register our cameras with the precinct. This would make it quicker and easier for investigators to obtain video footage. If something happens on your block, an officer might call you and ask you to look at your camera. We have been told that, in the event the police ask to come to your home to view the video, a plainclothes officer in an unmarked vehicle can be dispatched.

New Year's/Holiday Party

Our New Year's Party is scheduled for our January 14 meeting. As usual, we will have live music and home cooked food. Besides being fun, it's a great opportunity to network with elected officials, civic leaders and your neighbors. If we need to cancel this or any other winter meeting due to weather conditions, we will notify you by email, Facebook, and our recorded phone message.

We wish you a safe and happy holiday season.

Your neighbor,
Michael O'Keeffe

Around the Town

Condolences to: the family of Casey Rappold of 242nd Street on his recent passing. Casey was active in the Civic attending meetings and other events.

Condolences to: the family Bernard (Barney) Aquilino who was the former president of the Rocky Hill Civic Association, a civic that abuts ours on the western boundary. Barney died in Massachusetts where he had relocated.

CIVIC BOARD FORMED INFORMAL LUNCH CLUB REVIEW #2: SUPREME PIZZA

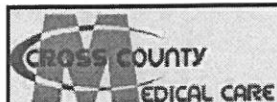
Some of the officers and board members of Creedmoor Civic had lunch at Supreme Pizza (formerly known as By the Slice) on Braddock Ave. They reported the service and food were wonderful. The Caprese Salad was large and delicious as was the chicken parmigiana and Sicilian Pizza. The owner personally waited on them and was very gracious and kind. They will definitely be returning. Supreme Pizza is a welcome addition to our community. They have reasonably priced pasta lunches. Check out their extensive menu and they deliver.

This informal Club will continue to patronize local restaurants.

MORE BELLEROSE STORES CLOSING

We have in these pages, and at our meetings, urged local residents to patronize neighborhood businesses. They don't exist without customers.

After the closing of Arturo's, now comes word that Trattoria Lucia has closed. Karen, the owner, wants to thank everyone for their hospitality over the years. Also, Heart of the Party, formerly known as Mr. Ribbon, will also close, although they will still serve customers via Etsy (on-line). This will continue. Merchants have complained how Bellerose people don't shop locally. We don't want a ghost town. It will affect property values. Please do your best to bring your business to our local merchants.



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Pregnancy Test
Vaccination
Tuberculosis Test
Sleep Apnea
E-prescriptions

2018 ROSTER OF PAID UP MEMBERS

Thanks to the following members who have paid dues for 2018. An asterisk indicates that a member made an additional donation. Thanks! We apologize for any mistakes, omissions or misspellings. If you think our records are incorrect, please contact us at 718-464-3369, or creedmoorcivic@gmail.com. We will make corrections in the January newsletter. If you have not paid your 2018 dues, please send \$10 to the Creedmoor Civic Association, PO Box 260143, Bellerose, NY 11426.

Moline St.

88 Block

Brinkley
Harding
Sabino
Sabino
Nadasy
Ramrup

89 Block

Huynh
Sandhovel*
Jayadeval*
Bellisario

Lyman St.

88 Block

Faraone*
Vorel / Loftus*
Sarabia"
Narain *
Weber
Ramcharran

89 Block

Forger
Lopez*
Dolan
Ward*
Poonawala
Singh

Gettysburg

88 Block

Loftus*
Nunziato
DiNoto
Lemma*
Fernandez
Gonzalez
Maldonado
Falls

89 Block

Jackson
Rodriguez*
Kelso
Holt*

237th St.

88 Block

Wagner
DiStasi
Mateo
Abedoza/Lodes
Geiger
Langone
Fajardo
Mahabir*

89 Block

Shad-Mahoney
Concannon
Donovan*

238th St.

88 Block

Block*
Barrett*
Christy
O'Sullivan
Morgan
Sito*
Poncel
Parker
Torchon / Engel
Connelly
Hughes*
O'Connor
Coupet* Cook

89 Block

Zambito
Dillon
Carrion-O'Neill
Kowalski-Walsh

239th St.

88 Block

Burke
Burke
Dipsingh*
Conry* Norton
Montanile*
Remache/Garcia
Barlund

89 Block

Wong
Siry*
Kelly
DeBoesche*
Borbee
Moore*
Almeida
Giuntini*
Deangkinay
Hegemann

240th St.

88 Block

Mancuso
Fischbeck*
Vollaro
Roman*
Giuntini
O'Keeffe

89 Block

Becker
Browne
Mulcahy*
Schropfer
Prus
Barry

241st St.

88 Block

Ackbarali*
Buffit
LaMattina
Rissmeyer*
Pfaff
Cvitkovich

Fiorillo*

Karoly*

89 Block

Stalzer*
Feliciano*
Nunns
Agate

242nd St.

88 Block

O'Kello*
Morris
McMenamin*
Schillinger*
Martinez*
Laffin/Rose*

89 Block

Keating
Terry*
Lavin
Ragusa
Aide
Jean - Charles*

88th Avenue

Donoghue
Baumann
Larkins
Persaud
Holloran
Rivera*
Mirbach*
Covatti*
Reilly
Evangelista/
Degroff
Casado
Hussey
Degula
Munsch
Konrad
Cashin
O'Keeffe

89th Avenue

Mulligan*
Stack
Barrett*
Coscia*
Jecewiz
Lollo

90th Avenue

Trent*
Daya/Yevoli
Martori*
Hefferon*
Budhram
Avila

91st Avenue

Ghobrial

Braddock Avenue

Gyro Spot
Cross County
Medical
John F. Prince
Post - V.F.W.

Additional Donations

Murphy
Hronick
Jackal
Preet's Super
Bazaar

Please let us know of errors. We will publish an addendum next month for corrections or late paid memberships.

105TH PRECINCT COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT

The 105th Precinct Community Council meeting was held on November 28 at Long Island Jewish Hospital. Deputy Inspector Nateis Gilbert stated that the precinct is down 90 crimes year-to-date, compared to the same period last year. For the most recent 28-day period, crime is down 6% (8 fewer crimes than same period last year). During this period, domestic violence incidents accounted for 17% of the crimes.

DI Gilbert broke down recent crime trends by sector. In our area, Sector Eddie, grand larcenies involving autos (including thefts of valuables from autos) remains a problem. Lock your car and keep valuables out of sight. Scams also continue, despite repeated warnings. We were reminded that the Internal Revenue Service will not call to tell you to send money for taxes owed. If someone comes to your door claiming to work for Con Edison, ask for ID and consider the whole situation. Is Con Ed working in the area? Did someone call them? If you have any doubt, don't open your door. Call Con Ed at 1-800-75-CONED to verify the worker's identity. Be very skeptical if you get a call from someone who tells you to send money to get a loved one out of jail in a distant place.

Every year, the Community Council delivers gift baskets to needy families in the precinct. If you wish to donate, send it to the 105th Precinct Community Council at 92-08 222 St, Queens Village, NY 11428. Indicate "needy baskets" on the check memo. The precinct is creating a database of surveillance cameras (see President's Message for details).

For the remainder of the meeting, instructors from the Police Academy demonstrated the Mobile Force Option Simulator. Community members participated in interactive video training normally used by police recruits. We were "armed" with simulated guns, pepper spray, batons and Tasers. Participants had to react to various scenarios in seconds. Those present were reminded how difficult and dangerous police work is.

PACKAGE DELIVERY THEFTS

The approaching holidays bring more home package deliveries. We are aware of at least one instance where packages were stolen from a front

stoop in our area. Consider arranging with neighbors to take in each other's packages. Bellerose Drug Store is a UPS Access Point. UPS may leave a note at your front door instructing you to pick up your package there. Also, there is an Amazon Locker at the gas station next to Foodtown on Jericho Turnpike. You can opt to have Amazon packages sent there. To retrieve your package, you will be given a unique code number which you would enter in the locker's touch screen.

LET'S BE GOOD NEIGHBORS

From time to time, we try to remind our neighbors of some of the rules and best practices that help maintain our quality of life and our property values:

Parking: We realize that parking has gotten very difficult, but we should still obey the law and extend common courtesy. Please be careful not to block driveways or fire hydrants. It is illegal to "hold" a street parking spot with cones, trash cans, etc. It is illegal to park a commercial vehicle on the street overnight. It is illegal to store a vehicle in the front yard. Parking on the front lawn is very detrimental to the character of the neighborhood. Painting markings on the street and installing unauthorized curb cuts are illegal.

Paving over front lawns. A 2008 change the NYC Zoning Text, Section 23-451, states that houses with a street frontage of 20 to 34 feet must have at least 25% of the front yard planted with grass, shrubs, etc.

Illegal apartments: Other than the apartment houses near Braddock Ave, our area is zoned for one and two-family homes. Basement apartments are unsafe and illegal. The same is true about dividing an apartment or home into smaller multiple rentals.

We need to work together to make our neighborhood safe and comfortable. Thanks for your help!

Coming soon!

Our annual New Year's Party will be the main event at our January 14 meeting. It is set-up as a pot-luck supper. Free admission and live music. Mark your calendar. If we cancel due to snow, it will be moved to our February 11 meeting.