

## **NEW YORK STATE EMPOWER+PROGRAM**

A civic member recently took advantage of the EmPower+ program, offered through the NYS Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). The program helps low and moderate-income households save energy and money through energy improvements made on their primary residences.

People who qualify receive a home energy assessment which pinpoints energy waste, and they get a customized plan to reduce energy usage. Then, a participating contractor does the work at no cost to the homeowner, up to the amount for which the person qualifies. Low-income, single-family households are eligible for no-cost energy efficiency improvements capped at \$10,000 per project. Moderate-income single-family households are eligible for no-cost energy efficiency improvements capped at \$5,000 per project. According to the website, a household with one member would qualify as a low-income household with an annual income at or below \$39,864. A one-person household with an annual income up to \$87,100 would qualify as moderate income.

### **Visit**

<https://www.nysERDA.ny.gov/All-Programs/EmPower-New-York-Program/Eligibility-Guidelines> or search the internet for NYSEDA EmPower. You can apply online or download a paper application and mail it. You may call 1-866-NYSERDA for more information. NYSEDA has also set up Regional Clean Energy Hubs to provide information and assistance on a local level. A list of these organizations can be found on the NYSEDA website. Renters and owners of 2-4 family homes are eligible.

**If we have snowfall this winter,  
please clear snow from the fire  
hydrant if there is one in front of  
your house.**

## **REPORT FROM THE 105<sup>TH</sup> POLICE PRECINCT**

At the 105th Pct Council meeting on November 27, Precinct Commander Captain Douglas Moodie said there has been a reduction in overall crime of 5% in the precinct year to date. Grand larcenies are up, including many thefts from unlocked vehicles. Capt. Moodie pointed out that the side view mirrors on many newer cars automatically flip towards the car when the vehicle is locked. Thieves can tell if a new car is locked by the position of the mirrors.

Burglaries are still a problem, although they are decreasing. Newly assigned officers are patrolling on foot, which may be having a positive impact. Burglars are mostly taking jewelry and cash. Most of the homes where burglaries took place had no alarm system or the alarm wasn't activated. Consider installing a safe that is bolted to the floor. Make sure doors and windows are locked. Secure ladders and furniture that can be stacked on decks to allow thieves to climb to the second floor. Remove window a/c's that can be pushed in easily.

Detective Villanueva and Officer Pesce held a Sector Eddie Build the Block meeting on November 21. They reported that mailbox fishing is still a concern, even after the mailbox slots were modified. If you must mail a check, try to use a special gel pen that is harder for thieves to erase. Mail checks inside the post office. If you mail a check at a remote collection box, try to mail it just before the scheduled collection time.

They urged caution with Holiday shopping. Parking lots in shopping centers can be dangerous, especially at night. If you are followed from a parking lot, consider going to a gas station, where the cameras are usually good. Lock your car and call 911 if the situation persists. Sound your car horn if someone suspicious approaches your car.

On December 1, Officer Pesce notified us that there were no burglaries or car thefts in our sector during the past week.