

# Next meeting: April 14 at 8 pm

Meetings at the Bellerose Baptist Church (basement), Braddock Avenue at 241<sup>st</sup> Street



## Creedmoor Civic News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CREEDMOOR CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.  
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"UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN"

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### HOMEOWNERS BRACE FOR POSSIBLE SECOND REAL ESTATE INCREASE

While homeowners have been recently socked with an 18.49% real estate tax increase in addition to the usual increase due to higher evaluations, the City is contemplating raising the real estate taxes again yet again.

With a total increase already around 25%, civic groups and real estate lobby groups have vowed not to be so complacent about a second increase. Petitions are already circulating against a second increase. Mayor Bloomberg actually has done little to trim spending, an approach that many find surprising from someone who supposedly is beholden to no one due to his financing his own election campaign and who came from the private sector where aggressive management techniques are common. Those techniques include major organizational restructuring. Until now, we have seen little of that. This issue will be discussed at our April meeting.

### Traffic/Transportation issues

#### NEW "NO LEFT TURN" SIGN

A sign was installed last month at 235th Ct and Hillside Ave restricting left turns during the periods in the morning and afternoon when school lets out. This was apparently in response to an accident several months ago when a parent made a left turn in front of an oncoming van, causing injury to her daughter. The Rocky Hill Civic Association has complained that the one sign is not visible enough, and has requested a second sign.

#### RED LIGHT CAMERA

A red light traffic camera has been installed at Braddock and Jamaica Avenues. Please be careful.

#### HOV RESTRICTION LIFTED

Starting last month, vehicles with at least three occupants can use the HOV lane on the Long Island Expressway before the Midtown Tunnel. Previously, this lane was reserved for buses. Now, as long as your car is EZ-Pass equipped, you can use this lane.

#### SPEED BUMP

A speed bump was installed last month in front of PS18. Immediately, residents on that block complained, even though it should make that block safer by slowing down most of the traffic. Most residents of that block do not belong to any civic association.

#### Q1 BUS CUTS

We've been informed that shortly new bus schedules will go into effect reducing service on the Q1 route. We are not being singled out, the MTA is making cuts in subway and bus service citywide to reduce expenses. Watch for new schedules and throw out your old schedules.

#### April Meeting Agenda

##### *Creedmoor Civic Elections*

*Should we increase dues in 2004 from \$5. to \$6.?*

##### *Real Estate Tax Increase Battle*

*What is our response to the proposed re-organization of the school system?*

## Creedmoor Civic News

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## Around the Town

❖ **Volunteer needed:** Our Welcome New Neighbor program welcomes incoming homeowners to our community. Second Vice President Rosemary Parker has distributed many packages for over two years now. We are looking for a volunteer to help Rosemary distribute these packages or to pick up coupons from sponsors (they are all on Braddock, mostly around Gettysburg St.). If you'd like to help, please call 718-464-3369.

### 2002 Membership Roster - Continuing Update

88<sup>th</sup> Avenue/235 Block: Persaud  
88<sup>th</sup> Avenue/238 Block: Denara, Guzman  
88<sup>th</sup> Avenue/240 Block: Cruz  
88<sup>th</sup> Avenue/241 Block: Okeeffe  
89<sup>th</sup> Avenue/242 Block: Coscia  
90<sup>th</sup> Avenue/242 Block: Jennings  
Moline Street/88 Block: Nadasy, Coster/Kaplow  
Moline Street/89 Block: Vapenick  
Gettysburg Street/88 Block: Loftus, Jackson, McCarey  
Gettysburg Street/89 Block: Meyer  
237<sup>th</sup> Street/88 Block: DeFantis, Guzman, Zimmerlin  
238<sup>th</sup> Street/88 Block: Lutz, Henmayer, Persaud, Dixon  
240<sup>th</sup> Street/88 Block: Blake, O'Keeffe  
240<sup>th</sup> Street/89 Block: Santiago  
241<sup>st</sup> Street/88 Block: Gay, Karoly, Olsen, Pfaff, Cvitkovich  
241<sup>st</sup> Street/89 Block: Dickmann, Caravella, Hagemann, Agate,  
Stalzer  
242<sup>nd</sup> Street/88 Block: Henamin, Rocco  
242<sup>nd</sup> Street/89 Block: Keating, Lavin, Loceman/Duthie  
242<sup>nd</sup> Street/90 Block: Felipe

**Donations:** Cruz \$10. (88 Avenue), Venditelli \$15. (89 Avenue)

## President's Message

The few nice days we've had have convinced many of us to start the spring cleaning of our front yards and sidewalks. What a mess they were! Months of leaves, garbage, Sunday circulars and other debris got compacted into a cement-like mass. Already our neighborhood is looking much better.

Many of you have signed up to be placed on NY State's Cease and Desist law. If you are on the list and receive any solicitations from a real estate office, please follow up and sign an official complaint form. Too many of these brokers try to avoid this law, and it's not fair to the real estate offices that play by the rules. If you have been solicited by mail or phone, make detailed notes and give us a call at 464-3369.

The 105th Precinct's Commanding Officer Michael Bryan has sent out a letter to all parents of children in our local schools asking them to do the right thing and follow the traffic rules. Too often, parents have committed the stupidest acts when dropping off and picking up their own kids. They've blocked school buses, crosswalks and run stop signs, especially around PS33. This places many of the other kids in danger. That's about as selfish as you can get. Deputy Inspector Bryan says that the 105th Pct is once again adopting a zero tolerance policy for these idiotic parents. That means no warnings, just summonses.

A presentation by PO Barto at last month's Precinct Community Council meeting gave attendees tips on spotting possible terrorist activity. If you see suspicious behavior that could lead to a terrorist act, call the NYPD's hotline at 1 888-NYC-SAFE.

We're looking for volunteers for our Nominating Committee, since elections for all officers of the CCA are coming up. Hope to see you at Monday's meeting. Your neighbor,  
*Rick Duskwicz*

P.S.: By now, we all know we must dial 1+ the area code for all calls within NYC. This has caused a lot of grumbling throughout our city, but it is now required by the FCC.

One bright spot in this headache of a decision by a federal agency is that several of our members will be receiving quite a few less wrong numbers to their household.

In our November 2000 newsletter, we wrote about the problems that the Chironno family of 239 St. had to endure when the new area code of 347 was created. Their plight was also covered by the NY Times and the Daily News. Believe it or not, simply because many people failed to dial the "1" before the 718 area code, the Chironnos have received over 27,000 wrong numbers at their house since April of 2000!! That is not a misprint, every number has been noted. Since Feb. 1st, when the requirement to dial all 11 digits of a phone number went into effect, the number of daily wrong numbers have already dropped by more than two thirds, and is expected to drop to almost nothing by the end of this month.