

Next meeting: Dec. 12 at 8 PM

Meetings at the Bellerose Baptist Church (basement), Braddock Avenue at 241st Street



Creedmoor Civic News

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

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BELLEROSE LIBRARY SET FOR MAKE-OVER

The Bellerose branch of the Queens Borough Public Library on Hillside Avenue is scheduled for much needed renovations.

Jennifer Manley, representing Queensborough Public Library (QPL), reported to a full house of the Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association (December 1, 2011 Meeting) that a fund of nearly \$1.5 million has been pulled together for a major upgrade of the Bellerose Library Branch. Electronic self-check-in and check-out, new computers, new furniture, and badly needed building improvements including repairing exterior cracks and roof leaks and designated adult and youth areas are included. Work is expected to start in late spring and take about six months. With lots some luck it will be complete by year end. A temporary location will be set up for continued use. Jennifer also reported on QPL plans for lending e-books and other electronic downloads.

Note: Thanks to Acting President Rich Hellenbrecht of the Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association for this update.

ROCKAWAY BEACH RAIL REACTIVATION PLAN

Some transit activists would like to revive the long abandoned Rockaway Beach Branch of the Long Island Rail Road bringing faster service to the Rockaways and true railroad service to Kennedy Airport and perhaps to the new racino at Aqueduct. There is a petition you can sign at <http://www.change.org/petitions/mtmetropolitan-transportation-authority-reactivate-lirr-rockaway-line-between-rego-park-and-aqueduct-jfk-airport>.

QUEENS CIVIC CONGRESS PRESIDENT PAT DOLAN KILLED IN AUTO MISHAP

Civic leaders throughout Queens were shocked and saddened by the sudden death of Queens Civic Congress President Patricia Dolan who was struck by a car and killed instantly on November 15.



Patricia Dolan: 1939-2011.

She was on her way to a Community Board 8 meeting on Hillside Avenue in Hollis, when the accident happened. She was pronounced dead at Jamaica Hospital, but her civic reported that she was killed upon impact. She was 72 and was also the president

of the Kew Gardens Hills Civic Association and a founder of the Flushing Meadows-Corona Park Conservancy. A memorial service on November 29 in Forest Hills was packed with hundreds of civic leaders and politicians from around the City as Pat was well known even beyond Queens. Richard Hellenbrecht of Bellerose is now the acting president of the Congress. She is survived by her cat Timothy who is being cared for.

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Creedmoor Civic News

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Don't Miss Our December 12 Meeting

At the start of our regular meeting on Monday December 12th at 8PM, guest speaker Marco Conelli will present The Birth of Sensationalism In America: The Ruth Snyder Murder Case. This is a pictorial history of the famous Queens Village Murder that in 1927 shocked America and became the pioneer for things such as



Queens Village home where Ruth Snyder murdered her hubby.

Court TV and the basis for films such as Double Indemnity and the Postman Always Rings Twice. This presentation follows the lives of Ruth Snyder and Judd Gray from before their murdering of Ruth's husband Albert and shows the role of the media in covering every day of their lives from the courtroom to the electric chair. His account of this "Crime of the Century" will also feature personal archives from the case and a surprise guest.

We invite all of our members and neighbors from nearby civic associations to attend this entertaining and informative presentation. Marco Conelli is a former NYC Police Detective and the author of the Matthew Livingston mysteries, a series of suspense novels in the Young Adult mystery genre. He was born and raised in Queens Village.

Contact us:

Email: creedmoorcivic@gmail.com
Phone: 718 464-3369

President's Message

Visit to the Sant Sagar Sikh Temple

Several civic members, joined by leaders of neighboring civics, attended the community event hosted by the Temple last Saturday. We learned about the origin, beliefs and practices of the Sikh religion. I was impressed by the devoutness of temple members, their tolerance of other religious beliefs, and the amount of volunteer service performed. We will continue to look for ways to get to know each other better and work together.

Next Meeting, December 12 at 8 PM

Come to our meeting to hear author Marco Conelli talk about the notorious Ruth Snyder Murder case. The 1927 murder, which took place in Queens Village, achieved national notoriety. Some people who grew up in this neighborhood remember hearing about this crime from their parents. Members of neighboring civics are welcome. Our regular meeting will follow the presentation.

January Meeting/Holiday Party

We will have our holiday party after a very brief meeting on January 9th. Elected officials and civic leaders are always invited and often attend. We are returning to our covered dish format: there will be food and desserts donated by civic members. Please plan on attending, especially if you are new to the neighborhood. We would welcome food that represents the many nationalities that make up the Creedmoor Civic neighborhood.

105 Pct

An article about the most recent 105th Precinct Community Council meeting appears in this issue. I have attended several such meetings recently. Inspector Joseph Courtesis, the precinct's Commanding Officer, has impressed me with his knowledge of this very large precinct, as well as his responsiveness, flexibility, and desire to solve problems. The officers of the precinct deserve our gratitude and respect for the courage and dedication they display on a daily basis.

Senator Tony Avella

Thanks to Senator Tony Avella for speaking at our November meeting. Senator Avella discussed several issues that are important to our community and to the state. Thanks, also, for sponsoring the "Diversity in the District Cultural Event," which was held on December 4, 2011 at the Queens High School of Teaching, Liberal Arts and Sciences on the Creedmoor campus. Eight groups representing Irish, Italian, Indian, Korean, Greek and Mexican heritages performed music and dance numbers. It was a very enjoyable event.

Creedmoor Property Issue

A letter from the Indian Cultural and Community Center (ICCC) concerning the proposed development on the Creedmoor Campus was published in the December 2, 2011 issue of the Times Ledger. We are working with other local civic associations to prepare a detailed response to address the many inaccuracies and misrepresentations found in the letter.

On behalf of the Officers and Board of Governors of the Creedmoor Civic Association, I wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season.

Your neighbor, *Mike O'Keeffe*

Fuzzy's Hosts Benefit for Queens Childrens Psychiatric Hospital

For the past 17 years, Fuzzy's Wolfrose Bar and its patrons have brought holiday cheer to the children at the Queens Childrens Psychiatric Hospital by making generous donations. In addition, Charlie Lupo, the owner of Fuzzy's, has forged partnerships with companies such as Toys-R-Us, Modells, the GAP and Old Navy to provide toys and clothing for the kids.

This year, Fuzzy's is collecting new t-shirts, underwear and socks for boys and girls age 7-17. You can help! Place these items in the barrel inside the front door at Fuzzy's up until December 17. Or, bring them to the benefit that Fuzzy's will host on Saturday, December 17 at 9PM. The \$5.00 cover charge will be donated to the drive, as will the proceeds of a 50/50 to be drawn that night. Donations can also be brought to our next civic meeting on Monday, Dec 12.

Thanks to Charlie and the Fuzzy's family for years of low key work, helping so many kids who are in such a difficult situation.

2011 DUES ROSTER ADDENDA

239 88 Ave Grandison

89 Gettysburg Beena Beauty

88 238 St Dixon, Magro

89 239 St Borbee

88 241 St Ackbarali

89 241 St Fernandez

88 242 St Mc Menamin Martinez

90 242 St Phillips

2011 DONATIONS ADDENDA

239 88 Ave Grandison

88 241 St Ackbarali

89 241 St Fernandez

88 242 St Martinez

News from the 105 Precinct Community Council

The most recent 105th Precinct Community Council Meeting took place on Wednesday, November 30, 2011. The following items that were discussed may be of interest:

- Burglaries continue to be a problem, both in our civic area and throughout the precinct. Inspector Courtesis emphasized that burglary is a very difficult crime to solve, since burglars try to avoid leaving forensic evidence by wearing gloves, hats, etc. The good news: Detectives from the 105th have made several arrests recently, including individuals believed to be responsible for two burglaries that occurred in our civic area. Vigilance is the key: One arrest happened when a neighbor saw a break in and called 911. If something doesn't seem right on your block (suspicious person, suspicious car, etc) call 911.

- Two recent burglaries/robberies were committed in the 105th Pct. by two white males posing as Cable TV installers. 2

arrests have been made.

- Holiday hustlers. Be specially careful during the holiday season. Scams on the rise. Be careful with on-line purchases. If a particular credit card transaction makes you uncomfortable, call the credit card company to cancel the card. A replacement card will be sent in a few days. Inspector Courtesis writes "Check ID" on his personal credit cards, in the event they are stolen.

- Tow trucks: If you park in a store's parking lot and then walk to a different store, your car could be towed. But, as Insp. Courtesis explained, someone from the store has to call the towing company. It is illegal for a tow truck driver to sit there, observe you walking away, and immediately tow your car. Also, the maximum legal charge to drop a car at the scene (after it has been hooked up) is \$51.00. Bottom line: If in doubt, call the police.

- At our request, officers will perform surveillance of the stop sign on the south bound Cross Island Parkway by the pedestrian tunnel at 88 Rd. Motorists routinely blow past that stop sign with stopping or even slowing down. Be sure to remind your kids to be careful crossing at that location, especially when riding bicycles.

CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING SURVEY

With the holidays approaching and the heating bills piling up, our thoughts naturally turn to.....central air conditioning?

Well, maybe not. But if you are considering installing a central air conditioning system, the winter might be a good time. Contractors might provide lower bids to keep their workers busy during the off season. If you have installed central air or a similar system, we would like to pass your advice on to other civic members. Please answer the following questions, either by phone (917)464-3369 or by e-mail: creedmoorcivic@gmail.com. We will summarize the information we receive and publish it at a later date.

1. Did you install central a/c when the walls were open, or were ducts run through closed walls?
2. Are you happy with the results? (comfort, convenience, noise, energy consumption).
3. Do you have any advice for homeowners who are considering central a/c?
4. Approximately how much did it cost? (Include year of installation).

Around the Town

❁ **Welcome to:** the new family of Joan and Brien Borbee of the 89 Block of 239th Street.

❁ **Three to keep in mind again:** Still recovering and in need of your thoughts and prayers: Board members Linda Dixon and Thomas Holt; and husband of Block Captain Domenica Chironno, Frank Chironno.

❁ **The Bellerose Baptist Church** has a food pantry. Please support the food pantry by bringing any of the following to the meeting: cereal, soup, peanut butter, jelly, pasta, pasta sauce, apple sauce, tea bags.

Buildings Dept Homeowners' Night

The Department of Buildings (DOB) hosts weekly informational sessions where residents can meet with Department representatives. Homeowners' Night is every Tuesday night from 4:00pm to 5:30pm at each borough office. The Queens office is located on the first floor of Queens Borough Hall, at 120-55 Queens Blvd, just east of Union Turnpike and the exit from the Grand Central Pkwy. Metered parking is available on the street, and there is a municipal parking lot nearby.

If you have a permit in force or a permit application, the information can be looked up right there. If your project is still in the planning stages, you can get information and advice about the various trades controlled by the DOB.

The Customer Service phone number is (718) 286-0600.

DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION - QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

We visited the Dept of Sanitation website, copied from their Q & A section, and added a few questions of our own. For more information, visit nyc.gov/sanitation.

Q. What time can I put out my garbage without getting a summons?

A. Set out garbage after 5pm (4pm from October 1 to March 31)

Q. What happens if a holiday falls on my regular recycling day?

A. Recycling will not be picked up until the regularly scheduled recycle day the next week. If the next recycle pickup day is also a holiday, a special recycling pickup will be provided.

Q. What bulk items are recyclable?

A. Recycle bulk includes any large item that is 100% metal (such as a metal file cabinet) or predominantly metal (such as aluminum lawn furniture with plastic webbing, and "white goods" -- large appliances including washers, dryers, refrigerators*, air conditioners* -- even though they contain some nonmetal parts.

Q. How do I get Recycling Decals?

A. See Literature/Decal Request on the nyc.gov/sanitation website, or call the New York City Citizen Service Center at 311.

Q. Why does my garbage get picked up at night during the winter?

A. Annual Night Plow Operation that enables DSNY to respond promptly and effectively to snow and ice conditions around the clock. The two added shifts are 4:00 PM to Midnight, and Midnight to 8:00 AM. DSNY's snow season runs from mid-November through mid-April. When DSNY is not handling snow and ice situations, night shift Sanitation Workers will collect household refuse and recycling. As a result, some neighborhoods

may experience minor inconveniences. Night collection crews have been advised to work as quietly as possible.

Q. When is my bulk collection day? Do I need an appointment?

A. Except for refrigeration appliances containing CFC/Freon gas, you do not need an appointment for collection. Bulky items that are too large for your garbage can be placed beside your regular garbage for collection on any of your regular collection days. Metal bulky items should be placed beside your recycling bin on your recycling collection day.

Q. If I throw out a mattress or box spring, do I have to put it in a plastic bag?

A. Yes. Beginning December 3rd, 2010, the New York City Department of Sanitation will require all City residents to fully encase within a sealed plastic bag all mattresses or box springs being discarded for DSNY collection. This new rule will help prevent an increase in bed bug activity, with bed bugs being found in homes and apartments. Failure to follow this rule can result in a \$100 fine.

BELLEROSE HISTORY BOOK TO BE LAUNCHED

A year ago, Arcadia Publishing, that prolific publisher of community history books, came out with the history of Floral Park (Nassau.) In 1971, the Queens Village Centennial Association published the history of Queens Village. Now, sandwiched in between two neighborhoods that have their history recorded, it's Bellerose' time.

James Trent, the Community Board 13 historian, has asked author and reporter Jason Antos of Whitestone to undertake the task. The book will cover all three Belleroses: Manor, Terrace, and Village. We are beginning the task of amassing material. If you have old photos, or any anecdotes you want to share, please let us know by contacting Jim Trent at jtrent8830@aol.com.



15 Pennsylvania Boulevard. An old postcard circa 1920 that was probably a photograph of an architectural rendering.

Trent Archives