Next meeting: Dec. 10 at 8 PM

Meetings at the Living Hope Christian Church (basement), Braddock Avenue at 241st Street





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

December, 2012 \star "UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN" ★ Website: www.creedmoorcivic.org ★ VOL. 81, NO. 10

STORM SANDY UPDATE

Although most of our area has returned to normal after a difficult month, there are still some problems related to Super-storm Sandy.

If a city tree fell and damaged your sidewalk, report it to 311. Then, call us at (718) 464-3369, or e-mail us at <u>creedmoorcivic@gmail.com</u> with the 311 reference number. We will follow up on the status of your request.

If a city-owned tree damaged your property, you may file a claim with the NYC Comptrollers Office at (212) 669-3916 or on line at http://www.comptroller.nyc.gov/.

Many others in our region are still living a nightmare. As the months pass, their needs will change, but they will need help for a long time. The links below provide opportunities to make donations and/or volunteer. If you have some free time, you might find volunteering to be a very satisfying experience.

Catholic Charities of Brooklyn and Queens. Donations, volunteers needed every day at various locations. 718-722-6001 or 718-726-9790; Red Cross 877-733-2767, or New York Cares 212-402-1101.

http://www.ccbq.org/how-volunteer-ccbq-hurricane-sandy-relief-locations

PARTICIPATORY BUDGET PROCESS MOVES TO NEXT PHASE

The Participatory Budget process has entered the next phase. Budget Delegates are now going through the many suggestions received at Neighborhood Asemblies, in order to come up with specific proposals. These proposals will then be presented to the community, and voted on in the next few months. Budget Delegates are working on 4 committees: 1) Schools & Libraries, 2) Parks, Environment, & Sanitation, 3) Transportation & Public Safety, and 4) Senior & Community Centers. There is also a Youth committee geared toward high school students. It's not too late to get involved in the process. The next meeting is Wednesday, December 12. For more information, contact Council Member Weprin's office at (718) 468-0137.

DON'T MISS OUR DECEMBER MEETING

Our guest speaker this month will be Dr Anand Ramnarine, a board certified attending physician at the Long Island Jewish Medical Center. Dr. Ramnarine will speak about acute illnesses and injuries from the unique perspective of an ER physician.

At the meeting, we will be accepting donations of toys for the children of 33 Creedmoor staff members who lost most of their possessions due to Sandy. Toys can be wrapped or unwrapped, for boys or girls ages 2 to 14. If wrapped, indicate age and gender on gift tag.

Please consider bring a donation of non-perishable food for the Living Hope Christian Church (formerly Bellerose Baptist Church) food pantry.

BELLEROSE REZONING PROCESS CONTINUES

On November 26, 2012, Community Board 13's Land Use Committee held a meeting at Martin Van Buren High School to explain proposed zoning changes for the Bellerose, Floral Park, Glen Oaks and New Hyde Park areas. The public review process is expected to take place in January 2013. Other steps include a vote by Community Board 13, approval by the Borough President's Office, and a vote by the City Council. The Queens Colony Civic Association will host a presentation of the proposed changes by zoning consultant Paul Graziano at its next regular meeting, to be held on Thursday, December 13 at 8PM at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, on Commonwealth Blvd and 87th Ave. Members of our civic are invited to attend.

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Financial Secretary

Around the Jown

Get Well Wishes to: Charles Covatti of 88th Avenue.

Congratulations to: <u>Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Lemma</u> of Gettysburg Street on the birth of their grandchild.

A DIFFERENT KIND OF OPEN HOUSE

At about 2PM on a recent weekday afternoon, a civic member witnessed one man give another man a boost into a first floor window of a vacant house. When she asked the men what they were doing, one said that they were real estate agents, and that they had permission to enter the house. When they refused to provide ID or other proof, our member called 911 to report the suspicious activity.

Police officers from the 105th Precinct arrived while she was still on the phone with the 911 operator. It turns out that the men did, in fact, work for a realtor. Even so, calling 911 was still the best action to take. Deputy Inspector Courtesis, the 105 Precinct Commander, has often told us to call 911 if you see something suspicious. For example, if someone rings your doorbell and ask for someone who does not live there, they could be casing your property, or your neighbor's.

Burglary is a difficult crime to prevent. Most burglary arrests result from a call from someone who saw something that didn't look right.

President's Message

Last Month's Newsletter

Getting last month's newsletter out proved to be a challenge. Jim Trent, our newsletter editor, had neither electrical power nor internet service. Our printer, Valley Printing on Braddock Ave, was closed all week with no power. Thanks to 1st Vice President Rick Duskiewicz for stepping up to edit last month's newsletter.

Our congratulations go out to the Bellerose-Hillside Civic Association, which is celebrating its 75th Anniversary. Jerry Wind, the President, and Joe Wind, the Treasurer, often attend our meetings and work with us on many matters that concern us. Jerry is the 7th president of the Bellerose-Hillside Civic, and has served with dedication in that capacity for many years.

On behalf of the Creedmoor Civic Association Officers and Board of Governors, I wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season. Please try to join us for this month's meeting (see page 1) and at our Holiday Party on January 14. Very little business will be conducted at the January meeting. Come down and meet your neighbors after the hectic holidays have passed.

Your neighbor, Mike O'Keeffe

FREE IMMIGRATION SERVICES

The First Tuesday of every month, from 10AM-5PM, at NYC Council Member Mark Weprin's Office, located at 73-03 Bell Blvd., Oakland Gardens, NY 11364. For more information or to make an appointment, call (718) 468-0137.

2012 DUES AND DONATIONS ADDENDA

Dues Donations Bryan Block, CB 13 Chair 236 Block, 88 Ave. 236 88 Rivera 88 Block, Moline St. Rivera, Mirbach Forger 88 Lyman 89 Block, Lyman St. Narain Ward, Murphy, Forger **88** Gettysburg 88 Block, Gettysburg St. Falls 88 240 Falls 89 Block Gettysburg St. Cartagena 88 242 Meyer 88 Block, 237th St. Murphy Mulcahy, Mahabir 90 242 88 Block, 238th St. Bisram Magro, Parker 89 238th St. **Braddock Avenue Dues** (These failed to make the LoMonte 88 Block, 240th St. June issue.) Daddario, Cartegna Saffron Restaurant 89 Block, 240th St. Braddock Auto Service Audubon, Bailey By the Slice Pizzeria 88 Block, 242nd St. Caroussos Murphy, Stohm Fashion Cuts Barber Shop 89 Block, 242nd St. Valley Printing & Engraving **VFW Prince Post** Schwizer 90 Block, 242nd St. Baran Sanchez, Bisram



The December 2012 issue of the Creedmoor Civic News is sponsored by the Dollar Depot.