

# Next meeting: Feb. 8 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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### TIPS TO PREVENT BURGLARIES

With the rash of burglaries that have hit our area and the surrounding neighborhoods lately, we thought this Internet piece that we modified slightly might be timely. *Twenty-two Things A Burglar Might Not Tell You:*

1. Of course I look familiar. I was here just last week cleaning your carpets, painting your shutters, or delivering your new refrigerator.
2. Hey, thanks for letting me use the bathroom when I was working in your yard last week. While I was in there, I unlatched the back window to make my return a little easier.
3. Avoid announcing your vacation on your Facebook page. It's easier than you think to look up your address.
4. Yes, I really do look for newspapers and circulars piled up on your steps. And I might leave a pizza or real estate flyer in your front door to see how long it takes you to remove it.
5. If it snows while you're out of town, get a neighbor to create car and foot tracks into the house. Virgin drifts in the driveway are a dead giveaway.
6. If decorative glass is part of your front entrance, don't let your



**Early in the morning of Saturday, January 16, a gray Honda Accord was vandalized at the corner of 238th St and 89 Ave. All four wheels and tires were taken.**

alarm company install the control pad where I can see if it's set. That makes it too easy.

7. A good security company alarms the window over the sink. And the windows on the second floor, which often access the master bedroom and your jewelry. It's not a bad idea to put motion detectors up there too.

8. It's raining, you're fumbling with your umbrella, and you forget to lock your door - that's understandable. But understand this: I don't take a day off because of bad weather.

9. I always knock or ring your bell first. If you answer, I'll ask for directions somewhere or offer to clean your gutters. (Don't take me up on it.)

10. Do you really think I won't look in your sock drawer? I always check dresser drawers, the bedside table, and the medicine cabinet.

11. You're right: I won't have enough time to break into that safe where you keep your valuables. But if it's not bolted down, I'll probably take it with me.

12. A loud TV or radio can sometimes be a better deterrent than the best alarm system.

13. Sometimes, I carry a clipboard. Sometimes, I dress like a lawn guy and carry a rake. I do my best to never, ever look like a crook.

14. The two things I hate most: loud dogs and nosy neighbors.

15. Your dog that barks at every little thing will probably be ignored by your neighbors. Teach that dog when to be quiet.

*(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)*

## Creedmoor Civic News

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Tel. 1-718- 464-3369  
Member: Queens Civic Congress, Inc.  
Web page: www.creedmoorcivic.org  
E-mail: editor@creedmoorcivic.org

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### Anti-Burglary Tips - (continued from Page 1)

16. I'll break a window to get in, even if it makes a little noise. If your neighbor hears one loud sound, he'll stop what he's doing and wait to hear it again. If he doesn't hear it again, he'll just go back to what he was doing. It's human nature.

17. I'm not complaining, but why would you pay all that money for a fancy alarm system and leave your house without setting it?

18. I love looking in your windows. I'm looking for signs that you're home, and for flat screen TVs or gaming systems I'd like. I'll drive or walk through your neighborhood at night, before you close the blinds, just to pick my targets.

19. To you, leaving that window open just a crack during the day is a way to let in a little fresh air. To me, it's an open invitation.

20. If you know your neighbor pretty well, and he has a visitor spending too much time walking around the house looking for him, you have every right to be suspicious. It could be me.

21. Do yourself a favor, and lock up your ladder, even if it's behind the garage and you think no one can find it. I'm sure your neighbor's not going to appreciate it if I borrow your ladder for a few minutes to get into his second floor rear window.

22. If you don't answer when I knock, I try the door. Occasionally, I hit the jackpot and walk right in.

## Letters to the Editor



Dear CCA:

I've noticed that several of the "BUMP" signs on 88th Ave are tilted and seem to be loose. What can be done about them?

-Name Withheld

Dear NW,

We've noticed that too. It appears that none of these four signs were ever set in concrete. The Dept of Transportation has been out at least once before to reset these poles. It's been reported that one of them has been shifted on purpose by someone who doesn't want his large truck scratched when he parks it there.

The situation has been reported to D.O.T.

-CCA

## President's Message

### Hello Neighbors:

**Once again, we need to give you a heads-up on some of the crimes in the immediate area. There have been a few burglaries, as well as some car vandalism. Keep your eyes and ears open, and don't hesitate to call 911 if you see something suspicious on your block. Many times, that one call is all it takes to catch someone who is responsible for several break-ins in a neighborhood.**

**As reported by our Financial Secretary Maureen Morris at last month's meeting, we have 268 paid members for 2009. Our goal was 300, but it's still not too late to pay for 2009 if you want. Six more came in just in the last month. In addition, we already have over 210 members paid for 2010! If you're not sure if you're paid up, leave your address and phone number at 718 464-3369 and your call will be returned within a day.**

**Many thanks to all who paid their dues, and to those who made additional donations. The notes we get in the envelopes are very encouraging, thank you.**

**By the way, there have been a lot of complaints lately regarding dog owners who fail to pick up after their dogs. The fine is \$250.**

Your neighbor,

*Rich Duszkiewicz*

### PAID FOR 2009 - ADDENDA

88 Moline: Mizutani/Truong  
88 Gettysburg: Carey  
89 237: Mahoney  
89 238: Dillon  
88 241: Cvitkovich  
242 88 Rd: Alikhan

### DONATIONS RECEIVED THIS MONTH

89 block Lyman / Vasquez, Murphy  
88 block Gettysburg / Carey  
88 block 238 / Connelly  
89 block 238 / Dillon  
88 block 241 / Cvitkovich  
240 block 88 Ave / Cruz, Evangelista  
242 block 88 Rd / Alikhan