

Next meeting: Feb. 11 at 8 PM

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



Creedmoor Civic News

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

February, 2013 ★ "UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN" ★ Website: www.creedmoorcivic.org ★ VOL. 82, NO. 2

BURGLARY SPIKE IN BELLEROSE

The news from the 105th Precinct Community Council: Crime as a whole declined slightly (1%) in 2012 compared to 2011, but burglaries remain a problem.

The most recent Police Precinct Council meeting, held on January 30, 2013, was conducted by Capt. Shine, the Executive Officer of Deputy Inspector Joesph Courtesis. Capt. Shine explained that Bellerose and Rosedale have been problem spots for burglaries recently. As in the past, most burglaries take place during the daytime. Most burglars have gained access through rear doors and windows, but some front doors have been forced as well. Window air conditioners have been pushed in in several instances.

Burglaries are a very difficult crime to prevent, unless alert neighbors witness suspicious activity and call 911. The 105th Precinct made 138 burglary arrests last year, which is a significant number. Capt. Shine stated that the Queens North Burglary Unit has been working in our area to assist the officers of the 105th Precinct. He reminded us again to call 911 if we see suspicious persons or activities. If someone knocks on your door and asks for a fictitious person, they may be casing the house to see if anyone is home. Call 911.

One of our members saw a suspicious person walk down a neighbor's driveway at 10:30 on a recent Sunday evening, and called 911. Police arrived within 5 minutes and searched the area diligently, but the person apparently escaped over the back fence.

105th Precinct Lt Lauterborn reminded us that burglars




seek homes where no one is home. If you are going out, use timers to leave lights and radios on. If you have a security alarm, use it, even if you are only going out for a short time.

The 105th Crime Prevention Officer will come to your house to perform a security survey. Call (718) 776-9207 for an appointment.

Some other suggestions:

1. Survey your own property as if you were a burglar trying to gain access.
2. Most people have a light at their side and rear doors. Consider installing light fixtures with motion detectors.
3. If your car key fob has a panic mode, bring keys to bed so that you can activate horn and flashing lights on your car in an emergency.
4. Bring your cell phone to bed. Have numbers of trusted neighbors pre-programmed in the event of an emergency.
5. Check out page 3 of our April 2012 Newsletter for more crime prevention tips. Visit our website at www.creedmoorcivic.org On the home page, click on "newsletter archive" and open the April 2012 issue.

 <p>Where your health matters</p> <p>CROSS COUNTY MEDICAL CARE A Modern Comprehensive Health Care Facility</p> <p>Marie A. Belotte, M.D. Board Certified, Internal Medicine 238-11 Braddock Ave, Bellerose, NY 11426 718.354.8300 fax: 718.347.9100 doctors@ccmconline.net www.ccmconline.net</p>	<p>Complete Physical Examination Heart Diseases Hypertension Diabetes High Cholesterol Headaches Dizziness</p>	<p>Imbalance Women's Health Pap Smear Depression Medical Forms Heart Monitor (Holter) EKG</p>	<p>Pulmonary Function Test In-house Laboratory Pregnancy Test Vaccination Tuberculosis Test Sleep Apnea E-prescriptions</p>
	<p>BRING THIS AD FOR A FREE GIFT - WHILE SUPPLIES LAST</p>		

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<http://www.facebook.com/creedmoor.civic>

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SERVICES FOR SENIORS

Services Now for Adult Persons (SNAP)

SNAP of Eastern Queens provides many services to senior citizens, including classes, case management and weekday lunch at its facility on the Creedmoor Campus. Meals-on-Wheels and home visitation programs are also available. www.snapqueens.org 80-45 Winchester Blvd, Bldg 4 718 454-2100

Catholic Charities Neighborhood Services

Hot meals for people 60+ years old. Northeast Queens Home Delivered Meals Program 718 357-4903.

Northeast Queens Friendly Visiting Program: Weekly visits to a senior citizen by a volunteer. Call Program Manager Chris Schneider at (516) 641-7541.

Sisters of the Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus care for the elderly in their own homes. Call 718-888-7708 or 646-434-9325.

(Thanks to St Gregory the Great Church for this information).

Home Insulation Help For Seniors

Seniors who cannot afford to insulate their doors, windows and around air conditioners to stop cold drafts can receive free help from the City Department of Aging's Weatherization Referral and Packaging Program (WRAP).

The program also provides for the repair and cleaning of home heating systems. For more information, call 212-442-3055. (Thanks to the Queens Colony Civic Association for this information).

President's Message

Holiday Party

Thanks to all who worked to make our January Holiday Party a success. Thanks also to Comptroller John Liu for attending, and to Anthony Iuliano from the Dept of Buildings for stopping in to explain the DOB enforcement of Super Storm Sandy-related structural damage to homes.

Burglaries

Burglaries have been a problem for a long time, and not just in this area, despite the diligent efforts of the NYPD. I believe that we can have an positive impact on this problem. We have to fight against being complacent. We have to do big and little things. This may mean installing an alarm, or having a security survey by the 105th pct Crime Prevention Officer, or bringing in your neighbors' garbage cans when they are not home.

March Meeting Focus On Mental Health

At our March 11 meeting we will have 1 or more speakers who will address mental health issues. I expect this to be a useful and interesting meeting. We welcome guests from surrounding neighborhoods.

Living Hope Christian Church Food Pantry

Thanks for your continued support of the food pantry. Items such as paper towels, tissues, toilet paper, tea bags, tooth paste, soap, rice, cereal, tuna fish and peanut butter are appreciated.

Your neighbor, *Mike O'Keefe*

Senator Tony Avella Running for Borough President

Senator Tony Avella, who represents Bellerose in the 11th Senatorial District, has announced that he will run for Queens Borough President to succeed Helen Marshall, who cannot run for re-election due to term limits. Besides Senator Avella, several others are seeking the Democratic nomination: City Council Member Leroy Comrie (St Albans), City Council Member Peter Vallone Jr (Astoria), Deputy Borough President Barry Grodenchik, Former City Council Member Melinda Katz (Forest Hills) and State Senator Jose Peralta (Jackson Heights). As of this time, no candidates have declared for the Republican nomination..

Follow-Up to Sandy DOB Violations

In last month's newsletter, we noted that the Department of Buildings had issued violation notices to homeowners whose homes were damaged by Hurricane Sandy. These violations contain standard wording stating that the building owner could be subject to criminal prosecution if the violations were not corrected. At our January meeting the following week, DOB representative Anthony Iuliano dropped in and explained that it was not DOB's intent to deal with Sandy victims in such a heavy-handed manner. He stated that each Sandy violations have been replaced with a "notice of deficiency", which documents the condition but does not threaten severe penalties for non-compliance or delayed compliance.

We thank Mr. Iuliano for taking the time to explain the situation to us.

HISTORY OF THE JOHN F. PRINCE POST VFW

The John F. Price VFW Post 6478, located on Braddock Ave at the south bound Cross Island Parkway service road, has been a fixture in our community since it was established on March 30, 1946.

The Post is named after John Frederick Prince, who came from Bellerose and attended PS 133 and Jamaica High School. He enlisted in the US Marine Corps on November 21, 1942. After undergoing basic training, John F. Prince was sent to the South Pacific. He was killed in action on November 20, 1943, in combat against the Japanese in the Gilbert Islands, which are a part of New Zealand. He is buried in Division Cemetery #3, Row A, Grave #20 at Betio, Tawara Atoll in the Gilbert Islands.

Since John F. Prince was the first service member from Bellerose to give his life for his country in World War II, the Post was named after him. There were 44 original members under Post Commander Joseph A. Stoehr. The present John F. Prince VFW Post Commander is Jay Dolan, a Viet Nam Veteran.

The Post plans to continue its service to veterans, and is actively seeking new members. In addition to veterans, non-veterans who have a relative who served in the US military can join the Post as auxiliary members. For more information, call Jay Dolan at (718) 740-4847.

If you are interested in renting the hall for a party, call (718) 347-9662. Leave a message and your call will be returned.

As it has in the past, The Post welcomes members of the community to attend Memorial Day Services, which will take place on Monday, May 27, 2013. More information will be included in our May newsletter. (Thanks to Post Commander Jay Dolan for the information contained in this article).

Sewer and Water Main Insurance Available

The Department of Environmental Protection has announced a new program where homeowners can purchase insurance to cover costly sewer and water main repairs. As you may know, homeowners are responsible for these repairs, which can run into many thousands of dollars. American Water Resources (AWR) is offering the program, with introductory rates of \$3.99 a month for water mains, and \$7.99 a month for sewers. The charges will be included in your water/sewer bills. These rates will be offered until June 30, 2013. This is a program that is worth considering. For more information, call AWR at (888) 300-3570, or see the link below: http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/service_line_protection/index.shtml

Water Main Break in Bellerose

On January 29, 2013 at 8:30PM, a water main break occurred in Bellerose at 249th Street and Shiloh Avenue. According to news accounts, at least three homes had a foot of water or more in their basements, and several others had a few inches of water. Most of the street had no running water while repairs were made.

Participatory Budget Process - Focus on PS 33Q

The Participatory Budget process is about to enter its next phase. As we have been reporting, City Council Member Mark Weprin is one of eight Council members who are each setting aside about \$ 1 Million to fund capital projects selected by community members.

The first step was Neighborhood Assemblies, during which community members suggested possible projects. Then came the work of the Budget Delegates, who sifted through the ideas, spoke to city agencies, and came up with realistic proposals which will be voted on by citizens this spring.

Creedmoor Civic members Lydia and Brian Connelly have been actively involved in this process. Lydia is a teacher at PS 33. They are working on a proposal to provide PS 33 with 20 interactive white boards. This technology, if approved, would greatly assist teachers and improve the quality of education at PS 33. We need you to turn out and vote when the time comes.

At the end of February, there will be public meetings at which the proposals will be explained. As of now no dates have been set. We will send information out by e-mail as it becomes available. If you have any questions, contact Veronica Ng at Council Member Weprin's office at (212) 788-6984.

Block Captains Needed

Several blocks in the civic area do not have a Block Captain who lives on that block. Newsletters for these blocks are delivered by volunteers who live elsewhere:

90th Ave, 91 Ave, 89 block of 241 St, 89 block of 238 St, 88 block of 237 St, 88 block of Gettysburg St, 88th Ave from 238 St to Gettysburg, 88 block of Moline. Thanks to all Block Captains for your help, whether it be delivering newsletters, collecting dues or communicating information!

Election for Civic Officers and Board Members

As per our Constitution, a slate of candidates for positions as Officers and Board Members of the Civic Association will be read at the March meeting. The names of any other civic members in good standing may be placed in nomination at the March meeting. Elections will take place at the April meeting. Installation of Officers and Board Members will take place before the May meeting.

SIGN UP FOR OUR E-MAIL ALERTS

The Creedmoor Civic Association sends e-mails when things come up between monthly newsletters. For example, in the last month we have sent out e-mail alerts on the following items:

- ◆Jan 11: Christmas tree mulching, electronic waste recycling, and a reminder to find us on Facebook.
- ◆Jan 16: The city announced a new program to insure a homeowner's sewer and water main connections.
- ◆Jan 25: A parent leadership conference for the parents of NYC school children.
- ◆Jan 30: An alert for high winds and heavy rain

All of our e-mails are sent blind carbon copy (bcc) so your address is not made public. If you would like to sign up, use the dues coupon on this page. Or, e-mail us at creedmoorcivic@gmail.com.

DUES AND MEMBERSHIP

It is important that we have as many members as possible. For one thing, your dues support our newsletter and other activities. Also, the more members we have, the more credibility we have in representing our community. Civic associations traditionally have worked to maintain quality of life, which also helps to maintain property values.

We are planning a membership drive in the spring. Please give us a head start. Fill out the membership coupon, enclose a check for \$6.00 and mail to our PO Box as listed on the coupon. If you are not sure if your dues are paid, contact us by phone at (718)464-3369 or by e-mail at creedmoorcivic@gmail.com.



Fly your Flag on Presidents Day

Enclosed herewith are my 2013 dues to the Creedmoor Civic Association. (Dues are \$6.00 per year). Make checks payable to the Creedmoor Civic Ass'n. Membership is open to all residents of the Association's territory, whether a homeowner or renter. Businesses located within our territory are eligible also.

[Civic boundaries: North: both sides of 88th Avenue; East: Cross Island Parkway; South: Braddock Avenue; West: both sides of Moline St.]

Name: _____

Address: _____

If you want periodic updates on news issues, include your e-mail (optional) _____

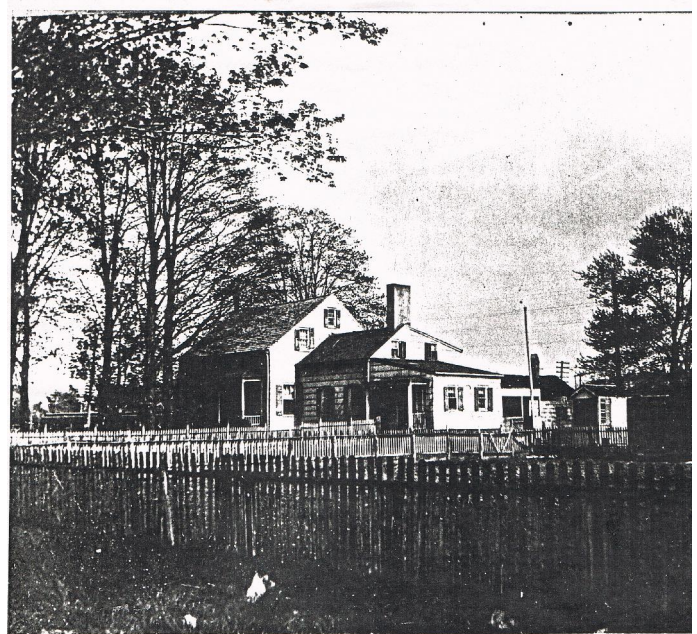
Mail this coupon to: Creedmoor Civic Association, P. O. Box 26143, Bellerose Manor, NY 11426

MEMORY LANE PHOTOS

The Queens Village Republican Club is the oldest GOP Club in America, founded in 1875. Included here are two photos of the places they met in the early 20th Century. The Club, which still meets, is perhaps the most vibrant and active Republican Club in Queens today now celebrating 138 years.



The Queens Club is where the QV Republican Club meet in the from 1936 to 1939 on Jamaica Avenue (Jericho Turnpike) and 215th St.



The Golder House was another Club venue located on Jamaica Avenue and 215th Place.