## Next meeting: Feb. 11 at 8:00 PM

This Meeting is held at Living Hope Christian Church, Braddock Avenue at 241st Street



# Greedmoor Civic Aews

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

FEBUARY, 2019

"UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN"

Website: www.creedmoorcivic.org

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## **LARCENIES DRIVE 2019 CRIME UPTICK**

At the 105th Pct Community Council meeting held on January 30, Deputy Inspector Nateis Gilbert reported that crime continued a downward trend in 2018, but that overall crime is up slightly for last 28-day period.

Thefts of unattended property, including valuables stolen from unlocked vehicles, were big contributors. Lock your car, and don't leave anything of value in your car, especially where it can be seen.

Scams are still claiming victims. A person residing in the 105th Pct. was recently bilked out of \$5,000 by a phone scammer who claimed he was calling from Microsoft about a computer virus. Mailbox fishing is still going on. Thieves literally fish envelopes from USPS mailboxes. They then "wash" the ink off the check so they can change the payee and the check amount. If you are mailing an envelope with a check in it, try to mail it inside a post office, or mail it before the afternoon pickup. The mailbox in front of our local Post Office has been modified to make fishing more difficult.

Credit card fraud continues. Much of this fraud is committed by sophisticated groups. The good news is that burglaries continue to trend downward, as do violent crimes such as shootings and assaults.

As always, Crime Prevention Officer John Mc Coy will perform a free security survey of your home. For an appointment, call 718-776-9207.

### CONGESTION PRICING AND REAL ESTATE TAXES LEAD DISCUSSION AT FEBRUARY MEETING

"Keep NYC Free" is a coalition that is working against congestion pricing in Manhattan. We have been asked if we wish to support their efforts. We will hold a discussion at our February 11 meeting, followed by a vote of the civic membership.

You may have received a Notice of Property Value for Tax Year 2019-20. This is not a bill. But it includes important information about how to challenge your home's assessed value or market value, or how to apply for exemptions such as STAR, Enhanced STAR, and other exemptions for seniors, veterans, clergy, and people with disabilities. We will have detailed information available at the meeting.

Note: March 15 is the deadline for property value challenges and for applications for exemptions. The NYC Department of Finance will hold outreach events about the Notice of Property Value at Queens Borough Hall on Monday, February 12 from 10 am- noon, and on February 20 from 5 pm- 7 pm.



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## Creedmoor Cibic News

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Creedmoor Civic is on Facebook! Check it out at http://www.facebook.com/creedmoor.civic

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## Around the Town

Board Member Marion Zimmer thanks all for their prayers and good wishes during her recent illness.

- HOSPITALITY-

Amanda Mulcahy

#### TOPICS FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS

At our March 11 meeting, a representative of the FDNY will discuss fire safety. Our April 8 meeting will include a discussion of high-tech home improvements, such as smart home devices, solar panels and split a/c units. Please attend if you have any expertise or experience in these areas, or if you want to learn about them.

#### **WE NEED HELP!**

The proposed Slate of Officers for the Creedmoor Civic Association will be published in March. We have a vacancy in the Recording Secretary position. Other vacancies occur from time to time. We are also looking for volunteers to deliver newsletters on the 89 block of 241 St. and the 89 block of Gettysburg St. We would prefer someone who lives on the block, but any help would be appreciated. For more information, contact us by phone at 718-464-3369, or email at creedmoorcivic@gmail.com.

## President's Message

On January 18, a man died of carbon monoxide poisoning in his Floral Park home, due to a defective boiler. The Red Cross will install smoke alarms and CO detectors in residences, free of charge. For an appointment, call 1-877-REDCROSS, or visit the Greater NY Red Cross Website for the "Sound the Alarm" program.

Over the years, we have tried to find ways to support our local merchants. What if, in the next month, each of us visited a local store or restaurant we haven't been to yet?

Our February 11 meeting should be interesting. Please join us and bring a neighbor!

Your neighbor,

Michael O'Keeffe

#### **TAKE SOME PICTURES**

Civic member Ruth Mirbach suggests that we take photos of our home, sidewalk, etc, before work is done in the area by the city, a utility or a private contractor. If there is any damage to your property, you will have documentation of any changes.

#### **HOLY TRINITY HOSTS DRESS FOR SUCCESS**

During February, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (on Commonwealth Blvd at 87 Ave.) will be collecting nearly new or gently used professional women's business attire. Call the Church office at 718-347-0278 for more information.

#### **BOWNE HOUSE EVENT**

The Bowne House, the oldest house in Queens, will host "The Search For Freedom In Queens," about efforts of the Bowne and Parsons families to help the Underground Railroad. February 23, 1-5 pm. 37-01 Bowne St, Flushing. For more information, see bownehouse.org.

#### TAX HELP FOR SENIORS AT LIBRARY

Low-income older adults can get free income tax help at the Bellerose Library on Tuesdays from 1:30 pm- 4:30 pm, through April 9. Call 718-831-8644 for more information.

#### **GLEN OAKS LITTLE LEAGUE CHALLENGER DIVISION**

The Glen Oaks Little League runs a Challenger Division for kids from 4 to 18 with physical and/or mental challenges. The season runs from early spring to June. For more information, Contact Dennis Noonan gobbclinic@aol.com, or Steve Digilio digilios@yahoo.com.

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