## Next meeting: Jan. 12 at 8 PM

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





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

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"UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN"

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# QUEENS CIVIC CONGRESS JOINS TERM LIMITS SUIT

The Queens Civic Congress, a borough-wide civic umbrella to which Creedmoor Civic is a member, has filed papers joining a lawsuit already in progress over the extension of term limits.

The lawsuit is not about the merits of term limits, it is about the method by which the current law, a part of the City Charter, should be amended. Since term limits was created by a vote in a public referendum and its amendment rejected by referendum, the suit charges that the public's will should not be overturned by legislative fiat as was recently done, extending term limits for City officials from two terms to three.

Randy Mastro, a deputy mayor under Rudolph Giuliani, put together the legal papers for the original suit. Such politicos as Guy Molinari, William Thompson, Betsy Gotbaum, William DeBlasio, Letitia James, and Charles Barron are the plaintiffs in the original lawsuit.

The defendents are the Mayor, the Speaker of the City Council, the president of the Board of Elections, and the members of the Board of Elections.

# CIVIC LEADERS PROTEST NEW HOTEL

At the December meeting of Community Board 13, the developers who purchased the ice cream store on Jericho Turnpike and 249<sup>th</sup> Street made a presentation of their proposed Days Inn hotel. While the developers can build as of right, civic leaders and community board members were not amused. The protesters charged that the developers were changing the character of the neighborhood. The developers said that if someone wanted to buy the land from them and re-open the soft-

serve ice cream store, they would consider an offer to sell the land. At times the meeting got a little ugly with charges of racism being thrown around against some of the protesters.

The real estate broker who screened the offers was present and, said there were scores of inquiries but he thought the hotel was the best use of the land. He was ridiculed when he admitted that he lived in Garden City, although he once lived in our area. He mentioned other uses and many in the audience said the other offers would actually have suited the community better.

#### CHARTER CHANGES (HERE WE GO AGAIN)

Mayor Bloomberg has appointed another charter revision commission to tinker (tamper) with the City Charter. He wants to make it easier to get buildings built. Sounds good, but he wants to remove the role of community boards and borough presidents from the process. In other words, let builders build whatever they want, wherever they want.

Civic groups around the city are poised to beat back these changes. There is also the fear that ultimately the mayor will attempt to abolish borough presidents altogether, an absolutely shocking idea. The mayoralty is already a virtual dictatorship with no accessibility for the little people; the council members are figureheads who can do nothing without the approval of the council speaker, so the only reasonable voice left with some accessibility is the borough president. Even with the reduced powers of the 1989 charter, they still have an important role.

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### Around the Town

**Condolences:** to the family of <u>Frank Fernandez</u> of Gettysburg Street who passed away.

#### **NEW YEAR'S PARTY JANUARY 12**

Continuing a tradition, our civic will have a party to celebrate the beginning of the new year. It is free. We will have heros, some hot food, beverages and desserts. We will start our meeting with some brief business, then

break for food, drink and a chance to chat not just with neighbors, but with civic leaders from around our area who will be dropping in. Feel free to bring some food item, if you wish (not required.)

#### **PAID-UP DUES ROSTER FOR 2008**

#### - ADDENDUM

234 88 Ave: Donoghue 237 88 Ave: Cashin 238 88 Ave: De Nara 240 88 Ave: Cruz

89 Lyman St: Lopez, Plagianos, Dolan

89 Lyman St: Kukreja, O'Hara

88 Gettysburg St: Loftus, Nunziata, Maldonado

88 237 St: Russo, Geiger

88 238 St: Dixon

89 238 St: Palau (was misspelled)

88 239 St: McDermott

89 240 St: Prus, Browne, Savino, Sooknarine,

McEnaney

88 241 St: Gallagher

88 242 St: Aragona, Laffin/Rose, Grimm, Hall

**89 242 St**: Aide, Caressimo **90 242 St**, Jean Charles

## President's Message

#### Hello, Neighbors!

Did you know that the Creedmoor Civic Association maintains an email list that can help keep you informed? Participants receive notification that this monthly newsletter has been uploaded and can be read online. Occasionally we have information that would be obsolete if we waited until the next newsletter, so it's sent out via email instead. Your privacy is protected, and your email address is never revealed to anyone else. If you're interested, send an email to us at info@creedmoorcivic.org.

Please join us at our Holiday Party this Monday. We like to be a little different and have it a little later than everyone else. No need to bring anything, just yourself. Maybe bring a neighbor. Even if you've never been to a civic meeting before, come. It starts at 8:00. See you then?

Your Neighbor,

Rick Duskiewicz

#### Donations Received - Thank You

Mirbach 236 88 Av Nieves 239 88 Ave Lopez 89 Lyman St Russo 88 237 St

Cruz 240 88 Ave Loftus 88 Gettysburg St Prus 89 240 St

Cashin 237 88 Ave

Bob Friedrich, Glen Oaks Village

## Bellerose 100 Years Ago



<u>Down Memory Lane</u>: The Creedmoor Hotel as viewed in an extremely rare postcard postmarked 1909. There was once a small hamlet called Creedmoor which included its own fire company known as Creedmoor Hose. It apparently had its own post office because the postcard is postmarked Creedmoor, NY. In the area of 88th Avenue and Pontiac Street was a German-style beer garden known as the Creedmoor Rest which survived well into the 20th century. Trommer's, a Bushwick-based brewery, stopped making beer in 1951.