

Next meeting: Mar. 14 at 8 PM

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



Creedmoor Civic News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CREEDMOOR CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
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BEDBUGS - A TWO PART SAGA

The following article was written by a CCA resident who wishes to remain anonymous:

My mom used to tell me, after tucking me into bed, that ol' saying that most of us have heard, "Sleep tight, don't let the bedbugs bite!" I never gave that mysterious saying another thought.

Until August 2010.

We had just come back from a backyard birthday party. Two of my kids were complaining about all the mosquito bites they got on the backs of their arms and legs. I dabbed the bites with a little calamine lotion while remembering all of the citronella candles that my cousin had scattered around her yard. I figured she had had a mosquito problem and my family was part of the feeding frenzy that afternoon.



Over the next couple of days, it seemed like the bites were not only getting itchier, but new ones were showing up in the same areas. I even got a few on my legs. I was pretty confused. Then it happened. One morning, I saw a small bug walking across the bathroom floor. It sort of looked like a roach, but not quite. I grabbed a tissue and picked it up to get a better look. I never saw this kind of bug before, maybe one of us brought it in from the backyard. I squished it and was quite surprised by the bright red blood that came out. And then it hit me. That explained all the bites. It was a bedbug!

I spent part of the day looking up pictures and information about bedbugs; How to find them, how to kill them, what works and doesn't work. I have to say, I was getting scared

because I saw some pictures of infestations that would make me want to walk away from most of my furniture.

That evening, I inspected every bed in the house but found nothing. I also checked my two couches. Nothing. I felt better, figuring I killed the one that did all the biting.

Three days later, I had several more bites on me, including one on my pinky finger. I took my bedding apart and found several bug legs and some black spots, which told me they had been in my bed. I was not too thrilled with the thought of having these critters hiding in all the nooks and crannies of my mattress and box spring, so I purchased zip-up covers for all of our beds. I also ripped out the material on the bottom of our two couches so I could get a better look, and I'm glad I did. There were multiple bug legs and skins in there. I made it a point to check both couches every day and vacuum them thoroughly. We were still getting bit every couple of days. The one on my finger was the worst one of all. I couldn't hide it, and it made my finger look deformed.

My husband and I decided to call in a professional. The man from one of the well-known exterminating companies came in an unmarked car, which eased my mind a bit. I really didn't want my neighbors to know. After a one-hour inspection, the salesman said he did see some signs of a small infestation in the past, he didn't see any live bedbugs. He told me what we would all have to do to

Continued on Page 2, Col. 2.

FUZZY'S WOLFROSE

239-21 Braddock Ave Bellerose, NY 11426

St Paddy's Day Drink Specials

Free corned beef and cabbage with potato starting at 4 PM til 10 PM

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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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Around the Town

❁ **Congratulations** to Chris and Monica Martuscello of 88th Ave on the birth of Christopher in December.

❁ **Belated condolences** to Judy Binkley of Moline St on the passing of her grandson Aiden in December.

❁ **Bellerose resident** and SJU senior Eugenia Soldatos was selected as a finalist for the 2011 Student in Service Award for the program she created called Project Identity. This program helps clients receive or locate lost-or-never-before seen identification papers such as non-drivers ID and birth certificates and enables people to collect their pensions, social security and more. She could use your votes. You can vote by visiting:
http://serviceawards.org/applicant/144/sis_applicant.aspx?nid=144

Photo at right was taken at a party held on February 27 at Antun's to thank former Senator Frank Padavan for 38 years of service to the community. Padavan invited many Bellerose civic leaders to join him at his own expense along with many of his own staff. Some 165 well-wishers were on hand at the party sponsored by the Queens Village Republican Club but which was attended by all regardless of party affiliation. A bi-partisan testimonial was delivered by Brooklyn's Republican State Senator Marty Golden, and Queens Village's Democrat Assemblymember Barbara Clark.

Bedbug Saga - continued from Page 1

prepare - bag all our clothes, vacuum and bag everything in our bedrooms, put any clothes that can handle heat in the dryer for 20 minutes to kill the bugs, and basically remove all clutter. It was going to take a lot of work on our part to prepare our home for the workers who would come in and thoroughly vacuum our home. It was going to take all day with five workers and it was going to cost - GASP - three thousand dollars. That included one return trip, but there was no guarantee. We thanked him and told him we'd think about it.

We didn't have three thousand dollars. What were we going to do?
(continued next month)

DONATIONS RECEIVED - THANK YOU!!

88 Avenue - 234 Block: Wilkerson

CLEANUP UNDER DISCUSSION

After several snowstorms, we're seeing months of accumulated bits of trash and other debris on our streets. We're exploring the idea of setting up a "Neighborhood Clean Up" weekend, possibly April 16th.

Everyone would be encouraged to do something on their block, even if it means cleaning up the street in front of the home of a neighbor or two. A great bonus would be if more than one person on the block did this together.

We'll explore this more at this Monday's meeting and at April's meeting. Please let us know if you have any ideas or suggestions.

COMMUNITY THANKS FRANK

