

Next meeting: Mar. 10 at 7:30 PM

THIS MONTH ONLY: MEETING AT PS-18, located at 86-35 235 Ct.



Creedmoor Civic News

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

March, 2014

"UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN"

Website: www.creedmoorcivic.org

VOL. 83, NO. 3

NYC COMPTROLLER SCOTT STRINGER TO ADDRESS JOINT CIVIC MEETING

The Creedmoor, Rocky Hill and Bellerose-Hillside Civic Associations will hold a joint meeting on Monday, March 10 at 7:30 PM at PS 18, located at 86-35 235th Ct. This will be our regular March meeting. Comptroller Stringer has agreed to speak. It is rare to have one of our top citywide elected officials come to a civic meeting. Please show up so we can show Comptroller Stringer that we count. Bring your questions. Refreshments will be served.

ICCC Update

As reported in our February newsletter, the Indian Cultural and Community Center (ICCC) has submitted a revised proposal to the Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA), requesting a variance to build 2 six story senior residence buildings on property it purchased on the Creedmoor campus.

On February 18, 2014, several civic organizations, including the Creedmoor Civic Association, sent a 6 page letter to the BSA in response to the latest ICCC plan. The letter addressed all of the "five findings," cited in NYC Zoning Resolution 72-21, that need to be satisfied for a variance to be granted. (The joint letter will be posted on our website, creedmoorcivic.org). The "C" finding pertains to whether granting a proposed variance would affect the character of the neighborhood.

On Tuesday, February 25, 2014, the Board of Standards and Appeals held a public hearing on the revised proposal. The Creedmoor Civic Association was one of several civics that was represented. Senator Tony Avella also attended. BSA members expressed concern that the amended

proposal was still out of character with the surrounding neighborhood. Other questions focused on how the project would be financed, and why such large scale buildings were required.

Civic leaders expressed concerns about the scale of the project, and its impact on traffic, safety and quality of life.

BSA Board Chair Meenakshi Srinivasan instructed the ICCC to further amend its proposal, and to provide additional information. Another public hearing has been scheduled for May 20, 2014.

On March 6, 2014, Queens Borough President Melinda Katz held a hearing on several BSA items, including this one. Results of this meeting will be discussed at the joint civic meeting on March 10.

Special thanks to Senator Avella for making a statement in person at the BSA hearing. Thanks also to Council Member Mark Weprin for providing a written statement in support of our position.

BRADDOCK PHARMACY
236-01 BRADDOCK AVE.
347-1516



EXTENDED HOURS:
MON-FRI 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM
SAT 10:00 - 5:00 PM
SUN 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

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Creedmoor Civic News

Published since 1931

Published 10 times per year by the Creedmoor Civic Assn., Inc.

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Creedmoor Civic is on Facebook! Check it out at

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

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March Hospitality Provided by the Rocky Hill Civic Association.....e

Around the Town

-Condolences to the Doran Family of 241st Street on the recent passing of Christian Doran.

-Condolences to the family of Theresa Mc Creary of 239 St. on her recent passing.

-Congratulations to the Connelly family of 238th St on the recent birth of their grandson, Oliver Scott Connelly.

-Get well wishes to Larry Burke of 242 St, who is recuperating from recent surgery.

PARTICIPATORY BUDGET UPDATE

For the second year, Council Member Mark Weprin has engaged in The Participatory Budget Process. The project proposals have been decided on, and will be voted on by residents of Council District 23 starting on March 29, 2014.

The proposals fall into 4 categories: Community Facilities, Parks, Schools, and Transportation/Public Safety. Those items that get the most votes will be approved up to a combined cost of approximately \$ 1 million. Among the many proposals selected by PB Budget Delegates, several would benefit our civic area or the surrounding community. See the list of projects on page 3.

Voter turnout is very important. Residents of Council District 23 who are 16 years and older are eligible to vote. Bring proof of age and place of residence.

President's Message

Participatory Budget

We are nearing the end of the second Participatory Budget cycle. Last year, several of our members worked very hard on a proposal to get smart boards for PS 33, only to lose by a small margin. This year, one of the proposals would provide smart boards for five schools, including PS 33. Other proposals help Martin Van Buren HS and PS 18. Please read the information on page 2 and 3 of this issue, save the newsletter for future reference, and remember to vote!

Hats Off to Dept of Sanitation and Our Volunteers

Thanks to the members of the Dept of Sanitation who have worked long hours under difficult conditions in order to clear our streets. Thanks, also, to our members who helped their neighbors with snow removal.

Your neighbor, *Mike O'Keeffe*

Participatory Budget Voting Locations

Cross Island YMCA 238-10 Hillside Ave

Sunday 3/30/14 10 AM - 2 PM

Saturday 4/5/14 11 AM - 3PM

Glen Oaks Library 256-04 Union Turnpike

Tuesday 4/1/14 2:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Wednesday 4/2/14 2:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Council District Office 73-03 Bell Blvd

Monday 3/31/14 10 AM - 6 PM

Tuesday 4/1/14 10 AM - 6 PM

Wednesday 4/2/14 10 AM - 6 PM

Thursday 4/3/14 10 AM - 6 PM

Friday 4/4/14 10 AM - 6 PM

Bayside Senior Center 221-15 Horace Harding Expy

Saturday 3/29/14 10 AM - 1 PM

Friday 4/4/14 10 AM - 2 PM

North Hills Library 57-04 Marathon Pkwy

Thursday 4/3/14 2 PM - 6 PM

North Shore Towers 272-48 Grand Central Pkwy

Wednesday 4/2/14 11 AM - 3 PM

Hilltop Village Co-op 87-15 204 St The Dover Bldg

Wednesday, 4/3/14 4 PM - 8 PM

Key Food 214-14 73 Ave

Monday 3/31/14 10 AM - 2 PM

Community Board 8 197-15 Hillside Ave

Tuesday 4/1/14 4 PM - 8 PM

Red Mango 61-47 188 St

Saturday 3/29/14 2 PM - 6 PM

Friday 4/4/14 3 PM - 6 PM

Participatory Budgeting (PB) Projects

Council Member Mark Weprin, District 23

Each voter can choose up to five projects.

Community Facilities

- ❶ Handicapped Accessible Shuttle Buses for Samuel Field Y, 58-20 Little Neck Parkway - \$150,000
- ❷ IT Infrastructure and Technology Upgrade for SNAP Senior Center's planned new building - \$200,000

Libraries

- ❶ Security Upgrades for District Libraries - \$86,000 each, \$344,000 total
Bellerose Library / Fresh Meadows Library / Hollis Library / Windsor Park Library
- ❷ Security Upgrade for Queens Village Library, 94-11 217th Street - \$125,000
- ❸ Self Check-in and Check-out Technology Upgrade for Queens Village Library, 94-11 217th St. - \$385,000
- ❹ Self Check-out Technology Upgrade for Hollis Library, 202-05 Hillside Avenue - \$200,000

Parks

- ❶ Bellerose Reading Garden at Bellerose Playground, 249th Street between 85th & 86th Avenues - \$250,000
- ❷ Installation of Fitness Equipment at Cunningham Park, near the track - \$200,000
- ❸ Preservation and Restoration of Captain Dermody Triangle, 216th Street and 48th Avenue - \$275,000

Schools

- ❶ SMART Boards for District Schools - \$4500 each, \$450,000 total
Public School 33Q, Edward M. Funk, 91-37 222nd Street, Queens Village – 40 SMART Boards
Intermediate School 109Q, Jean Nuzzi, 213-10 92nd Avenue, Queens Village – 20 SMART Boards
PS/IS 266Q, 74-10 Commonwealth Boulevard, Bellerose – 15 SMART Boards
Benjamin N. Cardozo High School, 57-00 223rd Street, Oakland Gardens – 5 SMART Boards
Queens High School of Teaching, 74-20 Commonwealth Boulevard – 20 SMART Boards
- ❷ Technology Upgrades for District Schools - \$85,785 total
Public School 135Q, Bellaire, 207-11 89th Avenue, Queens Village - \$50,895
Public School 18Q, Winchester, 86-35 235th Court, Queens Village - \$34,890
- ❸ Gym Project for Martin Van Buren High School, 230-17 Hillside Avenue, Queens Village - \$35,000

Transportation & Public Safety

- ❶ Portable Security Cameras, locations to be determined by NYPD - \$100,000
- ❷ Union Turnpike median curb repair, Hollis Hills Terrace to 226th Street - \$300,000

Council Member Mark S. Weprin

73-03 Bell Boulevard, Oakland Gardens, New York 11364 • (718) 468-0137 • MWeprin@Council.NYC.gov

Nominations For Creedmoor Civic Officers

As per our constitution, we hold elections every year for all officer positions and two Board member positions. The slate of candidates for the 2014-2015 Term is as follows:

President.....Michael O'Keeffe

President Emeritus.....Rose Daddario

First Vice President.....Brian Murphy

Second Vice President.....Thomas Holt

Treasurer.....James A. Trent

Recording Secretary.....open

Financial Secretary.....Maureen Morris

Sergeant-at-Arms.....Paul Bellisario

Board Member Class of 2017.....Janet Murphy

Board Member Class of 2017.....Rosemary Parker

At the March meeting, the floor will be open to nominations for any member in good standing who would like to be considered for any office. Nominations will be closed at the March meeting. Elections will be held at the April meeting.

Donations-Thank You!

89 block of Gettysburg: Holt, Meyer

89 block of 239 St: Haslop

88 block of 238 St: Connelly, Block

88 block of 240 St: Spina

88 block of 242 St: Morris

89 block of 242 St: Caressimo

234 block of 88 Ave: Baumann

2014 Dues Are Due

Civic dues are \$6 per calendar year. Please send your dues to: Creedmoor Civic Association, PO Box 260143, Bellerose, NY 11426. Please include your name and address, so we can record your payment. Provide your e-mail address if you would like to receive timely information bulletins.

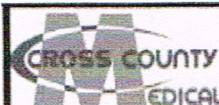
Security Increased at Creedmoor Hospital

Local civic leaders attended a meeting at Creedmoor Hospital on February 25, 2014. The recent escape of a high security patient from the hospital is under investigation, so no details were made available. Increased security measures have been instituted in the hospital. We were also informed of enhanced security on the grounds, including more frequent security patrols, clearing of vegetation, and better lighting.

105th Pct Leads City in Crime Drop

At the 105th Community Council meeting held on February 26, 2014, Deputy Inspector Mike Coyle, the Precinct Commander, reported that the 105th Precinct has led the entire city in crime reduction for the last 5 weeks. This data is obtained by comparing the crime rate in a particular week against the corresponding week from the previous year. Congratulations to the officers of the 105th for a job well done! Other items of interest:

- Thefts of tires and rims continue to be a problem, particularly affecting late model Hondas.
- Theft of catalytic converters is still going on. These automotive exhaust components are stolen because they contain platinum. Suburbans and vans are most vulnerable, because they sit higher off of the ground.
- One of the many scams being perpetrated is called the "Green Dot Scam." The name refers to a pre-paid debit card that can be purchased at stores such as CVS and Walmart. The scammer calls a potential victim and says he (or she) is from the FBI, IRS, or some other agency. The caller instructs the person who answers the phone that they owe money, and that they will be arrested within a short time unless they obtain a Green Dot Debit Card of a specified value, and then give the card's serial number to the scammer. No legitimate agency conducts business this way. Contact 105th Pct Crime Prevention Officer John Mc Coy at (718) 776-9207 if you get a call like this.
- Another scam is called "The Mystery Shopper Scam," in which a potential victim gets a solicitation by mail, text, or email, asking him to evaluate a retail experience. After agreeing to do it, the victim receives a realistic-looking check. He is instructed to deposit the check, do some specified shopping, and the "return" the unused funds via wire transfer. The check turns out to be counterfeit, so the victim is out whatever money he wired, plus fees from the bounced check.
- Officer Mc Coy will perform a security survey of your property by appointment. He will also etch serial numbers into vehicles, bicycles and electronic equipment. Call him at (718) 776-9207.
- The NYC Family Justice Center, Queens branch, is located at 126-02 82 Ave, Kew Gardens, NY 11415. It is a resource for people who experience any type of abusive relationship. Call (718) 575-4545 between 9AM and 5 PM.



Where your health matters

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