

Next meeting: May 8 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.
Founded 1927, Incorporated 1938

May, 2006

"UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN"

VOL. 75, NO.5

MTA TO HEAR COMPLAINTS AT OUR MAY MEETING

In the aftermath of our lead story about the Q1 bus last month, a representative of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority/New York City Transit has agreed to attend our May meeting.

Joseph Raskin, who works in the MTA public relations office and covers Community Board 13 transit issues, will be our guest at our May 8 meeting.

Since we now have a contact at the MTA, we decided to also alert him to the fact that the new bus stop signs on Jericho Turnpike were incorrect because the N24 was not mentioned.

Within 48 hours the signs were amended to add the reference of the N24 which the Bellerose Business District fought to have added as a transit option in Bellerose. (This extra bus line which goes express at the Queens Village boundary saves seven minutes on the trip to the 179th Street subway.) Mr. Raskin will field complaints about Q1 service. We expect that all of you will come out to this meeting. Even if you don't ride the bus, this service is important to our property values.

Raskin has also been given a heads-up that we are not happy about the single service at the 179th Street subway. Getting around the City became more difficult with the removal of the E train from Hillside Avenue. As a result of many complaints, they now provide four E trains out of 179th Street in the AM rush (and a similar service Jamaica-bound in the evening.) However, this is not sufficient. You cannot change for the G train from the F, nor can you transfer easily to the Lexington Avenue Subway from the F. We want more E trains at 179th Street. Now the only way to get to 23rd Street-Ely Avenue and 51st Street is by giving up your seat on the F and standing on a crowded E by changing trains at Roosevelt Avenue or Union Turnpike. If you agree with this, we need you to add your voice at our May meeting.

CIVIC JOINS AVELLA IN PRESS CONFERENCE ON BSA REFORM

Northeast Queens Council Member Tony Avella held a press conference on the steps of City Hall on April 26, to announce the text of a bill to change the make-up and voting requirements of the Board of Standards and Appeals. The intent is to reduce the number of variances granted which permit non-contextual construction.



From left to right starting with bottom row: City Council Member Tony Avella, City Council Member/Minority Leader James Oddo; second row: Ed Jaworski, Madison-Marine Civic Assn. (Brooklyn); Linda Eskenas, Staten Island Preservation League; Andrew Berman, Society for the Preservation of Greenwich Village; Richard Duskiwicz, President, Creedmoor Civic Association.

Creedmoor Civic News
Published since 1931

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

🌸 **Congratulations to:** Thomas and Erika Olkers of the 89 Block of 239th Street, proud new parents of Camryn Elizabeth, born April 6.

V.I.N. ETCHING SCHEDULED

St. Gregory's Church and the Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association are sponsoring a free auto theft program provided through the 105th Precinct's Crime Prevention program. Your vehicle identification number is etched into your car's windows using a stencil and glass etching solution. This makes your car less attractive to thieves who have to replace the glass before selling a stolen vehicle. Auto parts buyers will not want to buy from chop shops windows that have identification numbers.

You can also obtain free official Anti-Theft decals and a personalized insurance certificate for your insurance company. Many insurance companies offer a premium discount when your windows have been etched.

Bicycle registration will also be available. A police serial number is etched onto your bicycle and registered with the 105 Precinct. This deters theft of bikes and enables officers to identify a stolen bicycle.

This program will take place adjacent to Gregorian Hall, on 87th Drive at the Cross Island Pkwy northbound service road, on Saturday, June 3rd, between 10 A.M. and 2 P.M., weather permitting.

AUTO VANDALISM

Quite a few cars on 242 St. were "keyed" (scratched) the evening of April 27. Several thousand dollars worth of damage was caused. Every victim needs to report this to the 105th Precinct, even if the insurance company will not be involved. Think of

it...we're more likely to get a better response if seven or eight complaints are filed as opposed to just two.

President's Message

Once again I write to you about graffiti. The graffiti mural on Braddock Ave is gone, courtesy of the owners, thank you. Unfortunately, the Borough President's office has reneged on its promise to oversee a contractor to clean up graffiti in several other locations. More than seven months have passed since they were made aware of these locations, yet the graffiti still remains. Discussions with the management of the shopping strip at Hillside and Braddock where the Key Food is has continued. They have refused to sign graffiti waivers, and are supposedly looking into having their own contractors paint over the years-old graffiti on the roll-down gates.

A few stores along Braddock were hit again with spray paint in the last two weeks. That will be taken care of soon.

Several complaints have been made about the lack of curb cleaning on several blocks. As most of us know, we are all required to clean 18" out into the street. It's been reported to us that a number of homeowners haven't cleaned their curbs in front of their homes in many, many months. This is evident from the packed-down masses of leaves left over from last fall.

I'd like to congratulate both Teresa McCreary and Domenica Chironno on the certificates they received for their outstanding work as block captains. Both have collected nearly 100% of their respective blocks.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, we are printing additional names of paid-up members. If you haven't yet paid, you still have time, we will be printing one last addition of paid-up members in next month's newsletter, just before the summer break. Some block captains will be collecting over the summer for 2005 and 2006.

Your neighbor,

Rick Duskwicz

MORE PAID-UPS FOR 2005 AND DONATIONS

88TH Avenue: Holloran, Cardone, Wysowski (had been misspelled), Hussey, Stack.

89th Avenue: Coscia, Lollo

90th Avenue: Sullivan

Moline Street: Sandoval

Gettysburg Street: Kelso

238th Street: Hughes, Morgan

240th Street: Soorko, Santiago, Bailey-Castellanos, Forgione, Gallagher.

241st Street: Parisi

242nd Street: Murphy

We extend thanks for the following donations: Coster/Kaplow of Moline Street; Sandoval of Moline Street, and Fernandez of 241st Street. Also thanks to Frank Vorel of Lyman Street for the donation of a briefcase for use by Creedmoor Civic.