

Next meeting: May 10 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, 2010

"UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN"

VOL. 79, NO.5

C.M. MARK WEPRIN INSTALLS CIVIC OFFICERS



Officers and board members zig-zagging from left to right: Richard Duskiwicz, James Trent, Rose Daddario, Elizabeth (Betty) Baumann, Maureen Morris, Paul Bellisario, Thomas Holt, Ann Marie Duskiwicz, Michael O'Keeffe, Rosemary Parker, Marion Zimmer, and Mark Weprin. Missing from picture: Christine Larkins, Rosemarie Russo, and Linda Dixon.

Councilmember Mark Weprin served as our installing officer at our April meeting. Mark is the new councilman for our area, replacing his brother who was elected to the State Assembly.

What was supposed to be a easy-going, ceremonial meeting turned out to be a hard-hitting meeting regarding the conditions in the local public schools. Mark coming from the relatively euphoric experiences in District 26, the City's finest school district, was taken aback by the complaints about life in District 29, including how families have fled and continue to flee the neighborhood due to conditions in the schools, most notably I.S. 109 and Martin Van Buren High School. It has been reported (and denied) that Van Buren may be next on the Chancellor's

list to be closed. The meeting was one of the most hard-hitting and informative meetings in a while, and the representative from Mark's office who was also present, complimented our civic as being one of the most active and intelligent around.

The meeting ended with refreshments (as do all our meetings.) Councilmember Weprin is either personally present or sends a representative to all of our meetings.

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MORE ON RACCOONS

Since our feature story last month, more information has been provided by our readers. Raccoons also had been trying to penetrate houses on 89th Avenue and 242nd Street further north than we had known about. We also learned of two houses where raccoons had actually entered into kitchen extension attics. One civic resident reported her kitchen ceiling collapsing from rainwater that enter from the hole in the roof.

One of our residents wrote us the following:

*Hi,
As a frustrated resident who had his roof ripped apart last summer, I would like to shed some additional light on the raccoon problem. There are at least two other factors that contribute to this growing problem. There are many people in the area that have no lids for their garbage cans or just put garbage out in bags (or worse). Raccoons go for an easy meal. No food - the raccoons go somewhere else. In addition, there are those rude people in our area that leave food out for the stray cats (another growing problem - I'd like them to come over and clean up the cat feces all over my lawn). The raccoons move in at night and look for that also. Thanks.*

*P. D.
237th Street*

PAID FOR 2009 - ADDENDA

88 Block - Gettysburg Street - McGowan. McGowan also made a contribution to the Creedmoor Civic Association.

Please note that our listing of paid members for 2010 will be published before the end of the year, so get your dues in at least by October 1. Thank you.

President's Message

Hello Neighbors:

In the last couple of months, you may have noticed an increase of graffiti on the storefront gates along Braddock Ave. Much of it's been cleaned off, thanks to a contractor hired by the Bellerose Business District. A total of 15 locations on Braddock and Jamaica Avenues are scheduled to be cleaned.

A new "No U-turn" sign has been installed on Braddock at Moline St. at the request of the CCA. Hopefully it will help prevent some of the close calls caused by drivers who attempt to make the U-turn in one motion but fail. Other drivers are then forced to slam on their brakes to avoid the first car backing up. Many thanks to the Dept of Transportation, Community Board 13, and Assemblyman Mark Weprin for their help.

Hope to see you at the next meeting.

Rick Duszkiewicz

WHAT IS THAT TOWER?



people are not aware of the story behind the tower that looms over Springfield Blvd. just north of the point where Braddock Ave. ends. This structure was built by the Jamaica Water Supply Company as part of its well water system that fed much of southeast Queens (The Fourth Ward - Jamaica). It is now owned by the City of New York and is used only in times of emergency such as during protracted droughts. Local residents fought for years to end water service from the private company because of poor quality of water due to pollutants that entered the wells from sources such as gas stations and dry cleaning businesses. Eventually the City agreed to buy the company and connected the private mains with City Water at a point under Braddock Avenue near Winchester Boulevard. Creedmoor Civic always had City water because are in the Third Ward - Flushing. (We know, you thought we were part of Jamaica but all territory north of Braddock Avenue, the "Ward Line", is in Flushing. It's just our mail that's part of Jamaica.) Jamaica Water Supply operated from 1887 to 1996. It sold it's Queens system to the City and its Nassau County system to the Water Authority of Western Nassau. The holding company, now known as JWP Inc. still exists with 22,000 employees all over the world as an electrical and mechanical services systems company. It has headquarters in Rye Brook, and has sales of \$3.6 billion.

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