

Next meeting: May 13 at 8 PM

Meetings at the Living Hope Christian Church (basement), Braddock Avenue at 241st Street



Creedmoor Civic News

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

May, 2013 ★ "UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN" ★ Website: www.creedmoorcivic.org ★ VOL. 82, NO. 5

PARTICIPATORY VOTING RESULTS ARE IN

The first attempt at community involvement in deciding how council discretionary funds should be spent is now over. Following are the vote results.

Between April 1 and April 7, 1116 residents of Council District 23 voted on 13 projects put forth under the Participatory Budget (PB) process. The following 6 projects were approved, and will be funded at a total cost of \$979,000:

1. Glen Oaks Volunteer Ambulance Corps emergency equipment: \$40,000 (590 votes).
2. Queens Farm Museum roof repair: \$35,000 (535 votes).
3. Martin Van Buren HS technology update: \$129,000 (445 votes).
4. Security cameras to be placed in 3 locations within the Council District: \$100,000 (441 votes).
5. Cunningham Park enhancement of picnic area: \$375,000 (424 votes).
6. Cunningham Park music stage: \$300,000 (422 votes).

The seven projects that were not approved included 4 school technology upgrades (including PS-33), an upgrade of the Hollis Library, and replacement of curbs on the Union Turnpike median between Hollis Hills Terrace and 221 St.

Unfortunately, the PS 33 proposal for smart boards got only 308 votes, not enough to be funded. In fact, the Martin Van Buren HS technology upgrade, which received 445 votes, was the only individual school item that passed.

Funding for the two Cunningham Park Projects approved by voters will cost \$675,000, over 2/3's of the money allocated to the PB process.

On April 24th, Participatory Budget volunteers and members of Council Member Weprin's staff met to review the process and suggest improvements for next year. Many expressed opinions that the process was useful, but that a lot of effort during this first year went to learning how the process worked. Trying to match project suggestions from citizens with policies and procedures of city agencies proved to be difficult. The low voter turnout, typical for districts in their first year of PB involvement, can be improved upon by increasing publicity and community outreach. Other policies and procedures will be looked at, as well.

Thanks to Council Member Weprin for getting involved in the Participatory Budget process. Special thanks to all Creedmoor Civic members who volunteered or took the time to vote.

COUNCILMAN MARK WEPRIN TO SPEAK AT OUR MAY MEETING

If you have questions concerning City government and services, be sure to attend our May meeting to get your answers.

(Board and officers will be sworn in by Mr. Weprin)



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Creedmoor Civic News

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Creedmoor Civic is on Facebook! Check it out at

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

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President's Message

Thanks again to Deputy Inspector Joseph Courtesis for your excellent work as the 105th Precinct Commander, and best of luck in your new assignment. Welcome to Deputy Inspector Michael Coyle. Thanks also to the police officers and detectives who work daily under difficult and dangerous conditions to keep us safe.

Spring has finally arrived. Many of our neighbors have beautiful gardens and landscaping. Take a walk around the neighborhood to see for yourself.

Thanks to those of you who are doing more than your share to keep your blocks clean.

As the weather gets warmer, our lives move outdoors. Please be considerate of your neighbors, especially regarding noise.

Please continue to support the Living Hope Christian Church Food Pantry. Sought-after items include: tuna fish, rice, peanut butter, jelly, pasta, sauce, tea bags, paper towels, soap and toothpaste.

Your neighbor,

Mike O'Keeffe

VFW TO HOLD MEMORIAL DAY RITES

The members of The John F. Prince VFW Post 6478 will hold Memorial Day services on Monday, May 25th at 11:00 AM, in the VFW hall. Food and beverages will be served at the conclusion of the observance. Members of the community are welcome to attend.

CHANGE OF COMMAND AT 105 PCT.

Deputy Inspector, Joesph Courtesis, who has commanded the 105th since December of 2010, has been transferred to 1 Police Plaza, where he will serve as Executive Officer to newly appointed Chief of Department Philip Banks.

During his tenure here, DI Courtesis has impressed many local civic leaders with his thorough knowledge of the precinct, and with his ability to use the resources at his disposal in a very effective manner. We thank him for his dedicated service, and wish him well in his new assignment.

We would like to welcome the new 105th Precinct Commander, Deputy Inspector Michael Coyle. He comes from the 107th Precinct in Flushing, where he served as Commanding Officer. DI Coyle has served in the 105th Pct previously, so he is familiar with the area.

Some excellent work done by the officers in the 105th has led to the arrest of two individuals who have been charged with a recent string of early morning robberies. These incidents include the March 16th robbery of the Gulf Station on Hillside Ave, and the March 23rd robbery of the Braddock Super Bazar.

FIRE ALARM BOXES OUT OF SERVICE

The street fire alarm boxes in much of Bellerose, including the Creedmoor Civic area, have "Out of Service" signs on them. The duration of this outage is unknown. A representative from the FDNY Communications Bureau stated that repairs will be made as soon as possible. The signs say to call 911 or 718-999-5555 (Queens dispatcher) to report a fire.

BLOCK PARTY RULES

Are you thinking of having a block party this summer?

Do this at least 65 days before the date of your planned block party:

You must receive signatures from at least one more house than half the number on the block (51%).

Include the printed name, address and phone number of those signing.

Bring a money order for \$15.00 (made out to City of New York, Department of Finance), along with the signatures and the filled-out block party permit to the community board office at 219-41 Jamaica Ave. The Community Board 13 phone number is 718 464-9700.

DUES ROSTER FOR 2013 (THUS FAR!!)

We are still collecting for 2013. Please send your dues in with the handy coupon below.

Thank you for your support.

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| <u>234 88 Ave</u> Donoghue Baumann | Bellisario <u>88 Lyman St.</u> Duskiewicz Vorel/Loftus Mooney Narain Thomas Rivera Weber Faraone | Poncel Dixon Connelly O'Connor Cook Bivona Hughes | Heaney Castellanos | <u>90 Avenue</u> Hefferon Yevoli Trent Sileo |
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Enclosed herewith are my 2013 dues to the Creedmoor Civic Association. (Dues are \$6.00 per year). Make checks payable to the Creedmoor Civic Ass'n. Membership is open to all residents of the Association's territory, whether a homeowner or renter. Businesses located within our territory are eligible also.

[Civic boundaries: North: both sides of 88th Avenue; East: Cross Island Parkway; South: Braddock Avenue; West: both sides of Moline St.]

Name: _____

Address: _____

If you want periodic updates on news issues, include your e-mail (optional) _____

Mail this coupon to: Creedmoor Civic Association, P. O. Box 26143, Bellerose Manor, NY 11426

CANCER STUDY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The American Cancer Society is undertaking a comprehensive study to better understand the genetic, environmental and lifestyle factors that cause or prevent cancer. The study, entitled Cancer Prevention Study-3 (CPS-3), will involve at least 300,000 participants who are willing to make a 20 to 30 year commitment to the study.

The study is open to anyone who:

1. Is between 30 and 65 years old
2. Has never been diagnosed with cancer (not including basal or squamous cell skin cancer)
3. Is willing to make a long-term commitment to the study, which involves completing periodic follow-up surveys at home. Volunteers must complete a comprehensive survey, have their waistlines measured, and provide a blood sample.

Times and locations are as follows:

North Shore/LIJ Forest Hills: 102-01 66 Rd, 8 fl Conference Room. Tuesday, May 21, 2013, 9:30 AM- 1:30 PM

Long Island Jewish Medical Center: 270-05 76th Ave, Cafeteria Rm A and B. Tuesday, May 21, 2013, 4:00 PM- 7:00 PM

St John's University Law School, private dining room. 8000 Utopia Parkway, Tuesday, May 21, 2013, 3:00 PM- 7:00 PM, Wednesday, May 22, 2013, 9:00 AM- 1:00 PM

NY Hospital Queens: 56-45 Main St, Flushing. Lang Lobby/Auditorium. Wednesday, May 22, 2013, 11:30 AM- 3:30 PM

North Shore/LIJ Monter Cancer Center. 450 Lakeville Rd. Wednesday, May 22, 2013, 11:00 AM- 2:00 PM

For more information, visit <http://cps3ny.org/queens.org>
or call (888) 604-5888

BELLEROSE CIVIC LEADERS MEET WITH CONGRESSMAN ISRAEL

On Monday, April 22, leaders from Bellerose-area civic associations had a productive breakfast meeting with our

new congressman, Representative Steve Israel. As a result of recent redistricting, Congressman Israel's congressional district now extends from Suffolk County into Queens.

Congressman Israel said he will try to use federal government resources to work with local elected officials to solve local problems. Among the issues discussed was the proper use of large properties such as the Creedmoor Hospital campus and the VA Hospital in St Albans. Another issue was the long-standing effort to establish an additional police precinct to reduce the coverage area of the 105th Precinct.

He is very involved in Veterans' issues, and encouraged any

veteran to contact his office about benefits or other issues. Problems with passports are another area where the office may assist us.

He will set up an opportunity for our local non-profits to travel to Washington to meet with federal agencies to determine if federal funding is available to them.

Questions were raised about growing concerns over the impact of "Obamacare." He said it would not be repealed.

Congressman Israel's main office is located at 534 Broadhollow Rd, Suite 302, Melville, NY 11747. Since his district is spread over such a large area, he has opened a satellite office at 1 Barstow Road, #P-22, Great Neck, NY 11021. You may contact his main office by calling (718)875-1675, or (516)505-1448. Many issues can be resolved over the phone. If necessary, staff members will make an appointment for you.

WATERING RESTRICTIONS IN EFFECT

Watering of lawns is prohibited from 11 AM to 7 PM. Automatic lawn sprinklers must have a rain sensor. You may not wash down your sidewalk with a hose during those same hours. There is no restriction on washing your car, other than your hose MUST have a self-closing nozzle.


NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AT ALLEY POND PARK AUGUST 6

National Night Out, an annual event to enhance relationships and cooperation between police departments and community members, will take place on Tuesday, August 6, 2013, at Alley Pond Park.

The first National Night Out, then referred to as "America's Night Out Against Crime, took place in 1984. That year, 2.5 million Americans, from 400 communities throughout 23 states, took part. National Night Out now involves over 37 million people and 15,000 communities from all fifty states, U.S. Territories, Canadian cities, and military bases worldwide.

For the last several years, the 105th Precinct National Night Out has taken place at Cabell Park in Cambria Heights. Every year, the officers of the 105th work hard to provide a festive evening which includes food, activities and awards.

Volunteers and donations are needed. To learn more, or to become part of the Committee for National Night Out, call Detective Cooper at the 105th Community Unit at (718) 776-9173 or 9176.

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