Next meeting: May 12 at 8 PM

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



Greedmoor Civic Aews

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

May, 2014 ★ "UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN" ★

Website: www.creedmoorcivic.org

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ATTEMPTED ABDUCTION FOILED IN QUEENS VILLAGE

At the 105th Precinct Community Council meeting on Wednesday, April 30, 2014, Deputy Inspector Coyle stated that two attempted kidnappings had taken place earlier that day in the 105th Precinct.

The first incident took place at about 3:30 PM at 111 Ave and 208 Street, where an 11 year-old-girl stated that a dark colored vehicle stopped near her, and the passenger ordered her to get into the car. She ran away and was able to escape. The second incident occurred shortly thereafter at 113 Ave and 196 St in St Albans. This time, three girls, ages 10 and 11, reported a similar incident. The girls ran and escaped, as the vehicle came around the block again.

The next day, precinct detectives arrested two teenagers, ages 16 and 17, in connection with the incidents.

Civic groups received timely notifications of the incidents and subsequent arrests from the 105th Precinct Community Affairs Unit. We were able to pass this information to our members by email.

Please take this opportunity to explain to your children how dangerous this type of incident can be. In the past, predators have used various ploys to prey upon innocent children, such as offering candy or toys, or asking for help in searching for a lost pet.

PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING RESULTS ARE ANNOUNCED

For the second year, Council Member Mark Weprin has been involved in the Participatory Budget process, where members of the community suggest capital projects, develop proposals, and then vote on the proposals. This year, 1,888 residents voted, up from about 1100 last year.

The winning projects are smart boards at five schools (PS 33Q, IS 109Q, PS/IS 266Q, Benjamin N. Cardozo High School, and Queens High School of Teaching), fitness walk and exercise loop at Cunningham Park, portable security cameras (at locations to be determined by NYPD), technology upgrades at two schools (PS 135Q and PS 18Q), and security upgrades at three libraries (Fresh Meadows, Hollis and Windsor Park).

Special thanks to Creedmoor Civic's own Lydia Connelly for working to get the smartboards for P.S. 33. Lydia teaches at P.S. 33

BRADDOCK PHARMACY

236-01 BRADDOCK AVE. 347-1516

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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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Around the Town

Condolences to: the Murphy Family of Lyman Street on the passing of <u>James Murphy</u>. Jim was active in the Creedmoor Civic Association and was a past President of the Long Island Tomahawks football organization.

MEMORIAL DAY 2014 EVENTS

Memorial Day is Monday, May 26th. Please take advantage of the following opportunities to remember those who have given their lives to protect our freedom and way of life:

Memorial Day Service. Monday, May 26th at 11 AM at the John F. Prince VFW Post, on Braddock Ave at the Cross Island Parkway service road. The service will take place in the upstairs hall, followed by refreshments. All are welcome.

Little Neck-Douglaston Memorial Day Parade. Monday, May 26, from 2 PM- 4 PM. Parade proceeds west from Jayson Ave in Great Neck on Northern Boulevard to 245th St. For more information, visit LNDMemorialDay.org or call 718-279-3200.

Flags for sale: Our Association has several American Flag sets, which include flag, pole and mounting bracket. We sell the flags at cost (\$15.00). We will have them at our May 14 meeting, and will deliver flags within the civic area. Call us at 718-464-3369, or email us at creedmoorcivic@gmail.com.

BUS TOUR TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE

Some of our members will be going on an interesting bus tour of the Bronx on Saturday, June 7. The bus leaves from Poppenhusen Institute in College Point (14th Road and 114th Street) and will visit Bartow Pell Museum, a mid-19th century mansion with gardens in Pelham Park, and will include lunch at the Lobster Box, one of City Island's best restaurants. Cost is just \$40.

Contact Jim Trent at 718-343-8830 or <u>jtrent8830@aol.com</u> if you want to join us. We already have six from Creedmoor Civic going.

President's Message

When Bill De Blasio was running for mayor, he advocated regulating accessory apartments, including basement apartments, as a way to help provide more affordable housing. These units are currently illegal. We expect Mayor De Blasio to release his housing program any day now. Until then, we won't know the specifics of the proposal.

It is important to note, however, that most of the houses in the Creedmoor Civic area have cellars, not basements. To quote the Housing Preservation and Development web site: "..A basement is a story partly below curb level but having at least one-half of its height above the curb level. A cellar is an enclosed space having more than one-half of its height below curb level. Cellars in one-family and two-family homes can NEVER be lawfully rented or occupied."

Another issue: Bellerose and several surrounding towns were just downzoned by the NYC Dept of City Planning, with input from the communities and approval by the City Council. It was recognized that these areas are already very crowded, and that there is heavy reliance on cars, since we are a long bus and subway ride from the central business district (Manhattan).

Please join us at our May meeting for a discussion on this important issue.

Please bring non-perishable food items to support the Living Hope Christian Church Food Pantry.

Lastly, remember Memorial Day!

Your neighbor, Mike O'Keeffe

QCC LUNCHEON A BIG SUCCESS

On April 27, the Queens Civic Congress, an umbrella for some 100 civic associations, gathered at Antun's for their biennial luncheon. Some 170 people filled the room to hear Melinda Katz, Queens' new Borough President give the keynote address. Creedmoor Civic, as always, was in attendance. Two Brooklyn civics also attended.

MAY GARDENING TIPS by Larry Burke

May is here and the weather finally feels like Winter is over. This is a great month for working in the garden. Things are popping up all around you and it's not too hot.

Dig and divide early-blooming perennials after flowering ◆ Set supports for floppy plants, vines, and vegetables ◆ Allow foliage to remain until yellow to nourish bulbs for next year's display ◆ Look for pests and other problems ◆ Planting ◆ Harden off tomato, eggplant, and pepper transplants before planting out at end of month. Do this by putting them out during the day and bringing them back inside at night when the temperature can be too cool for them. It is best not to plant them into the garden until the very end of May. ◆ Continue to plant and transplant perennials ◆ Plant summer-flowering bulbs such as gladiolas and dahlias after last front date. ◆ Wait to prune evergreens, hedges, and other shrubs until late spring into early summer ◆ Deadhead roses as the flowers fade ◆ Fertilize roses, annuals and container plants.