

Next meeting: Oct. 9 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

October, 2006

"UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN"

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BLOOMBERG RENEGE'S ON BELLEROSE MEETING

After local Bellerose civics rushed to get organized for a visit to Bellerose by New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, he canceled six days before the scheduled event.

The event, termed a Community Meeting, would have been held on October 3 at I.S./P.S. 266, but we were informed that the Mayor could no longer honor that commitment. While we could still have had the meeting with his commissioners, it was decided by the presidents of the six civic associations hosting the event to cancel.

First we were given short notice that he was coming, then we had emergency meetings lasting for hours to strategize how to organize and publicize the event, including several visits to the school to check out the logistics of seating and how we might hang our civic banners. The six civics spent much money and energy printing and delivering flyers. The notice that the Mayor changed his mind did not sit well with civic leaders. Although he offered to reschedule for November 6, it was decided not to hold the meeting at all. November 6 is the day before the election and would have been a problematic date for a variety of reasons.

Our thanks are due to the block captains who this month not only are delivering this newsletter, but in the past week also had to deliver the Bloomberg notices, followed by the cancellation flyers. Special thanks to Ann Marie Duskwicz for providing and folding 1,000 cancellation flyers at no cost to the Association.

We were not given a reason for the mayor suddenly having something more important to do.

Thanks to: Ellen Stevens, of 242nd Street for taking on the responsibility of Recording Secretary!

MTA TO CIVIC: DROP DEAD

Two representatives of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, one from public relations, the other from bus scheduling, came to our September meeting and offered us...well, nothing.

- No go on a free transfer from the N24 to the Q79.
- No go on bringing back the Jones Beach Bus (JB24) which used to stop at the Bellerose Theatre.
- No go on sending more E trains to 179th Street, and
- Definitely no go on more buses on the Q1 Braddock line.

The only thing that was offered, and it was iffy, was re-numbering one of the Q1 branches so that there would be no confusion as to which bus route someone was traveling.

The MTA spokesmen said that patronage on the Q1 line continues to drop; another 5% has been lost in the last year. Where are all the former bus riders? In general, bus ridership across the City and region has been soaring. The rapid decline of the Q1 line is troubling and puzzling. However, the gentlemen said there was no danger of the line being terminated. The MTA is not subject to pressures from the public. (They are basically unaccountable) They look at the statistics coldly, and from a purely business standpoint.

The only possibility offered was diverting some Q88s down Braddock, then at least you could change for a Jamaica-bound bus at Springfield Boulevard, but don't hold your breath on that one either.

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Around the Town

☛ **Condolences to:** the family of Dorothy Mullin of 88-36 239th Street and the family of Joan McCarthy, also of 239th Street.

☛ **Congratulations and welcome to:** Il Vesuvio, a new restaurant that opened at 248-49 Jericho Turnpike, Bellerose Manor. Congratulations also to: Natasha and Ralph Ramcharitar of 239th Street on the birth of their son Tristan Ralph on September 24th. Also to: Francis Ammendolea, formerly of Creedmoor Civic, now a resident with his wife of Franklin Square who are expecting a second child. He is now practicing insurance defense law. Frank was seen at the Queens County Fair and at Sen. Padavan's Campaign Brunch on Sunday at the Douglaston Club. Ammendolea is also a former employee of St. Gregory's rectory.

Donations Received

We received a few more cash donations to our Association in recognition of its work. Thanks to:

North Bellerose Civic Association

88 Block / Lyman Street: Duskwicz

242 Block / 89th Avenue: Venditelli

President's Message

Hello, Neighbors!

It's extremely frustrating to hear people complain about problems in the neighborhood, but when I ask for help, they

can't find the time. How important is your neighborhood to you? Your home is a big investment, possibly the biggest you'll ever make. How would you feel if the area surrounding your home was covered in graffiti, the telephone poles covered with months-old garage sale flyers, and cars parked across the front lawns? Do you think it can't happen here?

The eliminations of these eyesores are just a few of the more noticeable things that your civic association is involved in. We need your help in various ways. None will take all that much time. Have a few hours to spare? Leave a message at 718 464-3369 and I'll get back to you.

Speaking of graffiti, our civic area is now virtually graffiti free. We've had help from the Bellerose Business District, the Borough President's office, Citizens Against Graffiti Everywhere (CAGE), Lucy and Bruno DeFrancheschi of the North Bellerose Civic Association, and Mike Augugliaro of Queens Colony Civic Association. Working together, we made the CCA area look so much neater. It also looks safer, too, since graffiti has been shown to give the impression that a neighborhood is unsafe.

The recent cancellation of Mayor Bloomberg's visit to Bellerose forced us to consider how we'd alert the CCA members quickly. We decided to print out one thousand flyers and asked your block captains to deliver them as soon as they could. Jim Trent not only created the original, well-worded original meeting notice, but created the cancellation flyer too. Jim and the block captains did a fantastic job, thank you!

We also were able to alert many people by email, since they had requested to be on our email list. Besides receiving the CCA newsletter by email, subscribers also receive notices that cannot be placed in the newsletter because of time constraints. Why not join the 80+ members that are already on the list? I promise that your email address will never be given to anyone else, and your privacy is protected. You will not receive anything other than civic-related information. Are you interested? Send an e-mail to: info@creedmoorcivic.org.

We'd had reports that representatives from companies are going door-to-door claiming that they will be able to save you money on your electricity or gas. They then ask to see your Con Ed bill. The word from both the Crime Prevention Officer and the Community Affairs Officers at the 105th Precinct is that while some of these companies may be legitimate, to be on the safe side, do not open your door for these people. There are similar scams that have resulted in houses being robbed. Never, ever show your utility bills to a stranger.

We had hoped to have a representative from Parks and Forestry to discuss our worsening tree roots and sidewalk problems, but it appears that their attendance was put on hold because of the mayor's impending, then aborted visit. We'll try again for next month.

Don't forget to join us when we march in our annual Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 28. It gets bigger every year. Just come in a costume. You'll have fun and may even show up in November's newsletter.

Your neighbor,

Rick Duskwicz

TRIANGLE GETS CLEANED



Thank you to John Ciolko of 88th Avenue for spending a few hours cleaning up the overgrown weeds and trash at the triangle at 88th Avenue and Moline Street this past month. He filled eight trash bags, which were promptly picked up by the Department of Sanitation.

CIVIC LEADERS POSE AT COUNTY FAIR



State Senator Frank Padavan (second from the left) sets up booth at the Queens County Agricultural Fair September 16 & 17. The event was held at the Queens County Farm Museum. Standing with him are local civic leaders from left to right: Creedmoor Civic board members Helen Trent and Rose Daddario; Helene Zaro of the Bell Park Manor Terrace Co-op and former president of Community School District 26; and Creedmoor Civic Treasurer James Trent.

Children's Fall Festival Scheduled Oct. 29

11:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Sunday at the Farm Museum. Halloween fun for children of all ages. Youngsters are invited to wear their costumes! Visit our haunted house.* Enjoy traditional games, including sack races and trinkets-in-the-haystack, plus pony rides and a petting zoo. Professional character look-a-likes will visit to add to the fun. Craft vendors will display and sell fall items, food, country western music and dancing will make this event fun for people of all ages. Admission: \$4.00 per person

*The haunted house is open 1:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. and is

recommended for ages 4–12.

KNOWING WHO OUR FRIENDS ARE

On September 21, the Four Borough Neighborhood Preservation Alliance Foundation held a social event to celebrate its One Year Anniversary. It was held at the Prospect Park YMCA in Brooklyn and served additionally as an opportunity to give plaques out to various people who have been helpful in stemming the tide of destruction in our neighborhoods, especially low-density neighborhoods such as our own. The following pols received awards: Council Members Lappin (Manhattan), Sears, and Avella (Queens), Lanza (Staten Island) Vacca (Bronx). State Senators Golden (Brooklyn) and Padavan (Queens), State Assembly Members Lentol and Brennan (Brooklyn).

The Queens Civic Congress has received a grant of \$10,000 from the City Council to help fund the expenses incurred by civic associations in Queens who are applying for downzoning, contextual zoning, or landmarking. The funds are for supplies, not staff. The Four Borough Neighborhood Preservation Alliance may be able to provide staff expertise to Queens civics in need of such services.

Speaking of State Senator Frank Padavan, we would be remiss if we didn't point out that he is providing \$12,000 in operating funds for the Joint Bellerose Business District, and \$110,000 in operating funds for the Queens County Farm Museum. Assembly Member Mark Weprin is providing \$5,000 to the Farm and another \$50,000 in capital funds. David Weprin is providing \$300,000 in capital money to the Farm and \$40,000 for operating expenses, and promises \$1 million in next year's budget towards the purchase of the Klein Farm in Fresh Meadow to be operated as a park by the Queens County Farm Museum.

FARM MUSEUM CORN MAZE IS OPEN

September 16–October 29

The Amazing Maize Maze (Sponsored by Con Ed) Enjoy getting lost in our 3-acre interactive corn maze. The adventure begins with a "stalk talk" to prepare you for the challenge of finding clues, solving puzzles, and making your way out of the maze. To add to the adventure join us for Maze By Moonlight on Saturday, October 7, when the maze will be open until 9:00 p.m. Admission: Adults \$7.00; children (ages 4–11) \$4.00; children (ages 3 and under) free.

October 1–29 - Pick-Your-Own-Pumpkin, Saturdays and Sundays 11:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Admission to the patch is free. (Pumpkins are not

HALLOWEEN PARADE

Sponsored by

Creedmoor Civic Association, Inc.

Saturday, October 28, 2006

(Rain or Shine)

Creedmoor Civic will host another costume parade in observance of Halloween. Line up is at Breininger Park (Braddock Avenue at 239th Street) at 1:45 PM. Parade kicks off at 2:00 PM and concludes at St. Anne Post, Catholic War Veterans on 92nd Road (across from the Bellerose post office.)

Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the parade. This event is for local children up to 12 years old and must have adult guardians. Parade route will be beginning at Breininger Park, cross Braddock Avenue heading north on 241 Street to 88th Avenue, along 88 Avenue west to Gettysburg Street, Gettysburg Street south to Braddock Avenue, cross Braddock Avenue to St. Anne's Post at 237-20 92nd Road.

Information: 718-464-3369

