

# Next meeting: Oct. 8 at 8 PM

**Meetings at the Bellerose Baptist Church (basement), Braddock Avenue at 241<sup>st</sup> Street**



## Creedmoor Civic News

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

October, 2012 ★ "UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN" ★ Website: [www.creedmoorcivic.org](http://www.creedmoorcivic.org) ★ VOL. 81, NO. 8

## PRINCIPAL OF P.S. 33 TO SPEAK AT OCT. MEETING

**Mr. Eric Wagner, the principal of P.S. 33 on 222<sup>nd</sup> Street and 92<sup>nd</sup> Avenue will be our guest speaker.**

Public School 33 is the school all of our civic association is zoned for except for the northside of 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue (which is zoned to P.S. 18). This will be an opportunity to learn what's new at the school and to ask questions. Since property values are tied to the quality of local schools, everyone should turn out to this meeting whether or not you have elementary age children in school. Currently P.S. 33 is a K-5 school. After the 5<sup>th</sup> grade, students are zoned to I.S. 109 on 213<sup>th</sup> Street in Queens Village, then to Van Buren High School.

### **CIVIC LEADERS MEET MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSIONER ON CREEDMOOR HOSPITAL ISSUES**

On September 27, leaders from local civic associations attended a meeting with Dr. Michael Hogan, Commissioner of the NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH), about issues associated with the Creedmoor Campus. The meeting, which took place at OMH offices in Manhattan, was set up by Senator Tony Avella, who was also in attendance.

The main topic of discussion was the spike in complaints over the past year about panhandling and other nuisance behavior at various locations outside the Creedmoor property. Another issue was the frequent NYPD responses into Creedmoor, which tax resources and make police officers unavailable for other responses. Creedmoor and NY State officials pledged to continue to work with the local civic groups and elected officials on these problems.

Another, equally important issue, is ensuring that the community has meaningful input on any future development on the Creedmoor campus.

### **HALLOWEEN PARADE SET FOR 10/27**

Our ever popular Children's Halloween Parade is back on. Last year it snowed and the parade itself was cancelled, but we went ahead with the refreshments. Several items to note: the parade is free, and is not restricted to residents of Creedmoor Civic: All local children who live near our area are welcome. The wearing of costumes is strongly encouraged. This year we are ending up at Bellerose Rescue. Our thanks to president Marty Braun for offering the facilities of the ambulance corps. See flyer back page.



Memory Lane Photo: 87<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Range Street, December 16, 1954. Trent Archives

### **LIBRARY NEWS**

The Queens Library will mail books, DVD's and CD's to individuals who are home-bound. In addition, people enrolled in the Mail-a-Book Program can take part in a teleconferencing program, allowing them to socialize and participate in discussions on various topics by phone. This program is run from the Queens Village branch. To learn more, call (718) 464-0084 Monday-Friday from 10AM-5PM.

# Creedmoor Civic News

Published since 1931

Published 10 times per year by the Creedmoor Civic Assn., Inc.  
PO Box 260143, Bellerose Manor, NY 11426

Tel. 1-718- 464-3369

Member: Queens Civic Congress, Inc.

Web page: www.creedmoorcivic.org

E-mail: creedmoorcivic@gmail.com

## -OFFICERS-

President.....Michael O'Keeffe  
President Emeritus.....Rose Daddario  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/Chairman of the Board.....Richard Duskiwicz  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.....Thomas Holt  
Treasurer.....James A. Trent  
Recording Secretary..... Ann Marie Duskiwicz

Financial Secretary..... Maureen Morris  
Sergeant-at-Arms.....Brian Murphy

## -BOARD OF GOVERNORS-

Elizabeth Baumann, Christine Larkins, Janet Murphy, Rosemarie Russo, Marion Zimmer

## - NEWSLETTER -

Editor.....James A. Trent  
Advertising Manager.....Thomas Holt  
Printing.....Valley Printing and Engraving  
Distribution.....Block Captains, Mike Hussey, Michael O'Keeffe

## - WEBSITE -

Webmaster.....Rick Duskiwicz

## - HOSPITALITY

October Hospitality Provided by.....Elizabeth Baumann

## Around the Town

❁ **Condolences to:** The family of Ann Gaffney Haslop of the 89 Block of 239<sup>th</sup> Street.

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

❁ Monday, October 8 at 8PM: **Creedmoor Civic Association Meeting**

❁ Thursday, October 11 at 8PM: **Candidates' Night.** Congressman Steve Israel and challenger Stephen Labate will speak at joint meeting of Bellerose Commonwealth and Queens Colony Civic Associations at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, located at Commonwealth Blvd and 87<sup>th</sup> Ave.

❁ Sunday, October 21, 7AM-3PM: **Blood Drive.** St Gregory's, in the Oak Room (lower level).

❁ Monday, October 22 at 6PM: **Participatory Budget Neighborhood Assembly.** Martin Van Buren HS, 230-17 Hillside Ave. Also, **Community Board 13** meeting at 7:30 PM, Bellerose Assembly of God Church, 240-15 Hillside Avenue.

❁ Wednesday, October 24, 1PM: **Participatory Budget Neighborhood Assembly.** At SNAP (Building #4), 80-45 Winchester Blvd, on Creedmoor Campus. Enter via Hillside Ave gate opposite Preller Field. Also same event repeated at 6 PM at St. Francis Prep HS, 61-00 Francis Lewis Boulevard. Also at 8 PM, the **105 Precinct Community Council Meeting**, 92-08 222<sup>nd</sup> Street.

❁ Saturday, October 27, at 1:45 PM: **Creedmoor Civic Association Halloween Parade.** Parade will conclude at Bellerose Rescue, located on Braddock Ave at Lyman St. Candy

and cookies will be served.

❁ **Wednesday, October 31, 4PM-7PM: 105 Pct Kids' Halloween Party**, 105 Pct, 92-08 222<sup>nd</sup> St.

## *President's Message*

### Autumn Means Time to Clean the Yard

We will be raking leaves very soon. Please take this opportunity to clear debris and overgrown vegetation from your yards. Not only are these an eyesore, but they are breeding grounds for insects, mice and other vermin. An additional problem is sheds and garages with numerous holes, allowing animals to live inside. Conditions such as these may be a cause for violations from the NYC Health Department. If we can reduce these problems, we will all enjoy a better quality of life and increased property values.

### Please Support Our Merchants

As we have said repeatedly, our merchants on Braddock Ave have been having a very difficult time since the closing of the Rocky Hill Pharmacy. Please go out of your way to have an outfit dry-cleaned, or buy a sandwich, a slice of pizza, a cell phone, or a newspaper.

### Bellerose Rescue

Bellerose Rescue, formerly known as the Queens Village-Hollis-Bellerose Volunteer Ambulance Corps, is seeking new members so it can provide ambulance and other community services. Our October 27<sup>th</sup> Halloween Parade will end at their quarters on Braddock Ave and Lyman St., in order to give members of the community an opportunity to learn about the organization and to view their facilities. Stop by for some cookies, and to have a look.

### Participatory Budgeting

As we explained last month, City Council Member Mark Weprin is one of eight Council members who have each allocated about \$1 Million to a process known as Participatory Budgeting (PB). Citizens from around the 23<sup>rd</sup> Council District may attend Neighborhood Assemblies to give their ideas on what capital projects should be funded with this money (a capital budget item pays for something to be built, fixed or replaced). There will be two Neighborhood Assemblies right in our neighborhood in the near future: At Martin Van Buren HS on Monday, October 22 at 6PM, and at SNAP on Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 1PM. A final Neighborhood Assembly will take place at St Francis Prep HS on Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 6PM. After the Neighborhood Assemblies are over, Budget Delegates will cull through the suggestions to select those ideas that are most feasible (volunteers needed!). An election will be held in the spring, and the winning proposals will be included in next year's budget. If you want more information, contact CM Weprin's office at (718) 468-0137.

### Support the Bellerose Baptist Church Food Pantry

Please bring non-perishable food items to our meetings in support of the Bellerose Baptist Church.

Your neighbor, *Mike O'Keeffe*

## 105 Pct Community Council Sept 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting

**Cop of the Month Awards:** Deputy Inspector Courtesis presented awards to eight police officers for excellent police work for the period from July through September.

**Arrest for a Burglary in Progress:** This was called in by an observant neighbor, who saw someone walk down a neighbor's driveway to the back yard. Upon arrival, police officers found an air conditioner pushed in through a 1<sup>st</sup> fl rear window. The suspect, still in the house, was arrested on the scene. Reminder: If you see someone suspicious, or a stranger rings your doorbell, call 911.

**Recent Burglary in Bellerose:** Two male whites approx. 30 & 50 yrs old, posed as plumbers. They wore reflective vest and carried walkie-talkies. They looked very professional. In a recent burglary, they told the home occupant that her water was leaking and that they needed to take a look. One accompanied the woman as she turned on her outside hose spigot. The other went into the house "to check the plumbing," but instead ransacked the house. They are believed to be targeting elderly persons. Note: Creedmoor Civic sent this alert to our members by e-mail on Sept 23.

**Crime:** Overall had been trending higher for first 6 months of the year, but major crimes were down 16% over the summer. As of September, there has been a slight increase in crime year-over-year. Burglaries were down over the summer, but spiked 17% in September. Auto Theft is down 16% YTD.

**Parties and noise complaints:** The noise complaint car responded to 550 parties over the summer, and broke up 160. Average attendance: 40 per party, some were as big as 200-300 people. Major fireworks confiscation: Took place around July 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Security Cameras:** If there is a crime problem in a particular area and there is a security camera system nearby, police may have the capability to add their camera to the system, if this is acceptable to the property owner.

**Block Watchers:** The Blockwatchers Program trains community residents on the skills needed to be the "eyes and ears" of the Police Department. Civilian volunteers are given training in observation and are then assigned a confidential Blockwatchers number which they use to report crime and dangerous conditions in their neighborhood. For more information, contact Detective Cooper or Officer Dipietro of the 105 Pct Community Affairs Unit at (718) 776-9173.

**Identity Theft:** A person came to precinct and reported that someone had changed the billing address on his credit

card. Also, Insp. Courtesis reminded people to be especially vigilant while using ATM cards at cash machines. Cameras and scanning equipment have been used to steal personal information.

**Police Helicopters in area:** Insp. Courtesis said that he calls for NYPD Aviation several times a week for various reasons, including missing persons and fleeing robbery suspects.

**During the holiday season,** many people order merchandise on line. If you are not home during the day, consider having packages shipped to a friend, neighbor or family member who is home during the day.

**I-Phone Thefts:** I-Phones have a feature that help cops solve loss/theft. If you have your I-Tunes account #, police can retrieve the phone's serial number. Stolen phones have been located at pawn shops, and arrests have been made.

### SHORT ITEMS OF INTEREST

✓St. John's University Speech and Hearing Center will be offering free speech and hearing screenings from September 6th through December 6th. Please call (718) 990-6480 to schedule an appointment. The Center is located at 152-11 Union Turnpike.

✓Sisters of the Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus are private caregivers who will minister and care for the elderly in their own home. For information, please call (718) 888-7708 or (646) 434-9325.

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS VACANCY

There will be an election at our October meeting to fill the position on our Board of Governors that was made vacant by the passing of board member Linda Dixon. Rosemary Parker, who has served our civic as a vice president in the past, has been nominated for the position. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor.

### CIVIC MEMBERS ASKS ASSISTANCE

On August 25th, a member of our civic was involved in an auto accident at the Cross Island Parkway Service Road and Braddock Ave, near the VFW Post. If anyone witnessed this accident or has any information, please call the Creedmoor Civic phone at (718) 464-3369, or e-mail us at [Creedmoorcivic@gmail.com](mailto:Creedmoorcivic@gmail.com).

### POST OFFICE GRAFFITI REMOVED

Many thanks to Jamaica Postmaster Daniel O'Connor and Bellerose Post Office Manager Violet Joseph for arranging for the removal of graffiti from the Bellerose Branch Post Office at our request.

### POLL LOCATION CHANGE

Our civic has been redistricted to P.S. 18 for voting. If you've been voting at P.S. 33, please note the change. If you are not registered to vote, there will be an opportunity on October 13 to register in person locally (P.S.191 at 258 St. and 85 Ave. for sure) from noon to 9 PM. If you have a valid New York State Motor Vehicle I.D., you can register online.



# HALLOWEEN PARADE

Sponsored by  
Creedmoor Civic Association, Inc.

Saturday, October 27, 2012

(Rain or Shine)

Creedmoor Civic will host another free costume parade in observance of Halloween. Line up is at Breninger Park (Braddock Avenue at 239 Street) at 1:45 PM. Parade kicks off at 2:00 PM and concludes at the headquarters of the Bellerose Rescue 235-01 Braddock Avenue. 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 Breninger Park, cross Braddock Avenue to 239<sup>th</sup> Street, north on 239<sup>th</sup> Street to 88 Avenue, west on 88 Avenue to Moline Street, south on Moline Street to Braddock Avenue, walking east to Bellerose Rescue at 235-01 Braddock Ave.

Information: 718-464-3369

Please Post

