

# Next meeting: Oct. 8 at 8:00 PM

This Meeting is held at Living Hope Christian Church, Braddock Avenue at 241<sup>st</sup> Street



## Creedmoor Civic News

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

OCTOBER, 2018 ★ "UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN" ★ Website: [www.creedmoorcivic.org](http://www.creedmoorcivic.org) ★ VOL. 87, NO. 8

### JOINT CIVIC CANDIDATES NIGHT OCT. 11

Three local civics, Creedmoor, Queens Colony, and Bellerose Commonwealth will be joining forces to hold a candidates night at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church on Thursday, October 11 at 7:30 pm.

The church is located at 246-65 87<sup>th</sup> Avenue (enter from Commonwealth Boulevard).

Candidates for the following offices have been invited: U.S. Congress (House of Representatives), NYS Senate, and NYS Assembly.

Get informed on who the candidates are. There have been some upsets in the primary election held in September. The general election may change the lineup of electeds, so learn who the candidates are, what their positions are, and be sure to vote on November 6<sup>th</sup>. All voters in Creedmoor Civic vote at P.S. 18 (86-35 235<sup>th</sup> Court).

#### BELMONT RALLY SUNDAY OCT 14

The Belmont Park Community Coalition (BPCC) will hold a rally on Sunday, October 14 at 2 pm to protest proposed development of Belmont Park planned by the Empire State Development Corp (ESD). The rally will take place at 2150 Hempstead Tpke, at Locustwood Blvd.

As we have reported previously, the proposed 18,000 seat arena would hold up to 150 events a year, including NY Islander home games. The arena, along with a 250-room hotel and massive retail complex, would cause increased traffic on the already overburdened Cross Island Parkway and streets in surrounding neighborhoods. Additional

#### OCTOBER MEETING

We have invited the businesses located on Braddock Avenue within our territory to attend our meeting and discuss with us the status of their businesses. Some businesses have expressed distress at a low level of patronage.

concerns have been raised about the viability of the proposed shopping area, and the effect it would have on existing businesses in the community.

This issue has been discussed at recent civic meetings. The consensus has been that we need to show the ESD that they must listen to and work with local communities. They must also make a realistic assessment of the environmental impact of this project. We encourage people to attend this rally.

#### FARM MUSEUM GETS NEW DIRECTOR

Amy Boncardo, who has been employed at the Queens County Farm Museum for 30 years and is the current Executive Director, is retiring before the end of the year. Jennifer Walden Weprin, the wife of former Assembly Member Mark Weprin, has been hired as the new Executive Director.

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## Creedmoor Civic News

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## ALLEY POND CLEANUP

A newly formed group, Friends of Alley Pond, will have their first project on Sat. Nov. 3 at 9:00 am. Volunteers are needed to rake leaves, paint benches, and do general cleanup work. All supplies will be provided. If you want to help, contact Lydia Connelly at (718) 343-0067 or by email: [uconnex2me@aol.com](mailto:uconnex2me@aol.com). Clearly leave your full name, phone and what civic association you belong to.

## BUSINESS LUNCHEON NOV. 3

The Joint Bellerose Business District Development Corporation has resumed annual luncheons after several years of bi-ennial luncheons.

The luncheons rotate between Nancy's Restaurant and Trattoria Lucia. The next event is Saturday, November 3 at 1 PM at Nancy's. The cost is \$40 for a four-course lunch including beverages, tax and tip. Creedmoor Civic has authorized the purchase of 10 tickets to be offered at half price. We have a few tickets available. If you are interested in the discount ticket, you must attend the October meeting. Of course, anyone can attend at full price. Contact James Trent at 718-343-8830 or [jtrent8830@aol.com](mailto:jtrent8830@aol.com) if you have an interest. Thus far, Council Member Barry Grodenchik is a confirmed speaker. Another speaker from the Nassau side has been invited but is not yet confirmed.

## President's Message

We thank the Bellerose Commonwealth and Queens Colony Civic Associations for inviting us to co-sponsor the Candidates Night on Thursday, October 11 at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Please attend, not only to learn about the candidates and issues, but also to show them that our concerns must be taken seriously.

On Election Day, November 6, there will be several proposals on the ballot to revise the New York City Charter. These questions pertain to civic engagement, community boards and campaign finance. To learn more, search for the Charter Revision Commission on [nyc.gov](http://nyc.gov). The City Council has begun a process that will generate additional proposals to be voted on in 2019.

This newsletter contains information on a lot of events taking place over the next month. We hope to see you at a few. Come to our meeting on October 8 to meet some local merchants.

We will publish a roster of members who have paid dues and made donations in our November newsletter. If you have not paid your 2018 dues yet, please send a check for \$10 to PO Box 260143, Bellerose NY 11426.

Your neighbor,  
*Michael O'Keeffe*

## SIKHS TO HOLD PARADE NOV. 10

The Gurdwara Sant Sagar Sikh Temple will hold a parade and celebration on Saturday, November 10, in celebration of the 550th anniversary of the birth of Guru Nanak Dev Ji, the founder of the Sikh religion. The parade will begin at noon at the temple, located at 242-25 Braddock Ave.

It will proceed north on the Cross Island Parkway service road, east on Hillside Ave, north on 263 St, and west on 82 Avenue, ending at the parking lot of St Gregory the Great Church, at 88 Rd and the southbound CIP service road. Refreshments will be provided there.

At about 1:30 pm, there will be a shower of flowers from a helicopter at Hillside Ave and Little Neck Pkwy. Members of the community are invited to participate in the parade of the festivities that follow.

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**DON'T FORGET OUR POPULAR CHILDREN'S  
HALLOWEEN PARADE. SEE BACK PAGE.**

# Braddock

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## **NYPD BUILD THE BLOCK MEETING 10/24**

Our Neighborhood Coordinating Officers (NCO's) will hold their next Build-The-Block Community meeting on Wednesday, October 24th at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, located on Commonwealth Blvd at 87 Ave. Doors open for light refreshments at 6:30 pm, program begins at 7 pm.

These meetings will be held quarterly, to give the police officers and community members a chance to get to know each other and exchange information. Contact information for our NCO's: PO Shawn Gallagher: Cell 929-375-1056, shawn.gallagher@nypd.org. PO Joseph Contessa: Cell 917-863-3557, joseph.contessa@nypd.org. Text messages are best for routine items. Always call 911 for emergencies.

## **NEW CUB SCOUT PACK**

On Tuesday, Oct 16 at 7:30 PM, there will be an open house about the formation of a new Cub Scout Pack. The meeting will take place in the St Gregory the Great Oak room, which is directly below the church on 88 Ave. For more information, contact Robert Colonna at 917-428-2468.

## **BLOOD DRIVE**

The Holy Name Society of St Gregory the Great will sponsor a blood drive on Sunday, October 28, from 8 am to 2 pm, in the Oak Room, directly below the church. Pre-registration for appointments will take place on Sunday, October 21 after Masses in the Gathering Space.

## **SAFE DISPOSAL EVENT**

The next SAFE Disposal Event will take place at Cunningham Park on Saturday, October 27, from 10 am to 4 pm, (rain or shine). Enter from Francis Lewis Blvd between Union Turnpike and the Grand Central Pkwy. Among items accepted: Automotive products, electronics, household chemicals and medical items. Appliances and tires will not be accepted. For more information, call 311 or visit [nyc.gov/safe-disposal](http://nyc.gov/safe-disposal).

## **QUEENS CIVIC CONGRESS**

### **FIGHTS CLOSING RIKERS ISLAND**

At its September meeting, the members of the Queens Civic Congress voted to form an ad hoc committee to deal with the proposal to close the Rikers Island penal colony and transfer prisoners to new or renovated jails located in four of the five boroughs. Staten Island was spared having to deal with this plan, although leaving out Staten Island puts a hole in the main argument for this plan: that prisoners need to be near their families. Family members getting to their loved ones in prisons outside of Staten Island have quite a hike to take.


This scheme was largely initiated by Queens Council Member Rory Lancman. Lancman has also been a proponent of prison reform and has tied the relocation of the prisoners to that goal. It is the position of the Queens Civic Congress that prison reform and building new jails which will cost billions of dollars are two unrelated projects.

While there are certainly some supporters of this plan, the Corrections Officers union is not one of them. For many, including civic leaders, the idea that you can prevent or lessen the ugly incidents between jail employees and the incarcerated by relocating these same people to another location is unsubstantiated. Bricks and mortar do not have anything to do with how jailhouse workers interact with the prisoners. It's a matter of training and supervision.

Originally we were led to believe that in Queens, it would just be a reopening of the Queens House of Detention for Men in Kew Gardens behind the Criminal Courts Building, but now it appears the building will have to be demolished and replaced with a much larger one.

To make the proposals more palatable, the Lancman plan which now has the backing of the Mayor (who originally opposed it) would include a shopping center. This idea was met with ridicule by Queens Civic Congress leaders. On the other hand, Karen Koslowitz, the council member who represents Kew Gardens thinks the idea will be an economic boon to the neighborhood.

Brooklyn residents in particular have reacted negatively to the one proposed for their borough and are fighting it.

 <b>CROSS COUNTY</b> <b>MEDICAL CARE</b> A Modern Comprehensive Health Care Facility <b>Marie A. Belotte, M.D.</b> Board Certified, Internal Medicine 238-11 Braddock Ave, Bellerose, NY 11426 718.354.8300 fax: 718.347.9100 <a href="mailto:doctors@ccmconline.net">doctors@ccmconline.net</a> <a href="http://www.ccmconline.net">www.ccmconline.net</a>	Where your health matters	<b>Complete Physical Examination</b>	<b>Imbalance</b>	<b>Pulmonary Function Test</b>
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<b>Diabetes</b>	<b>Depression</b>	<b>Vaccination</b>		
<b>High Cholesterol</b>	<b>Medical Forms</b>	<b>Tuberculosis Test</b>		
<b>Headaches</b>	<b>Heart Monitor (Holter)</b>	<b>Sleep Apnea</b>		
<b>Dizziness</b>	<b>EKG</b>	<b>E-prescriptions</b>		