

# Next meeting: Sept. 14 at 8:00 PM

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



## Creedmoor Civic News

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

SEPTEMBER, 2015 ★ "UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN" ★ Website: [www.creedmoorcivic.org](http://www.creedmoorcivic.org) ★ VOL. 84, NO. 7

### CITY BACKS OFF ON OPENING QUEENS VILLAGE LIMITED SECURE FACILITY

The NYC Administration for Children's Services has canceled plans to place a Limited Secure Facility to house youthful offenders in a Queens Village building located on Jamaica Avenue at 207 St.

Starting this past spring, the Queens Village Civic Association has mobilized support among elected officials and community groups to oppose the facility, and has been holding weekly protests at the site. The main objection was that the proposed building is adjacent to many private homes. In addition, the facility was inadequate, lacking outdoor recreation space. Residents had serious concerns about their safety and the value of their homes. Community Board 13 voted to oppose this proposal during the spring.

The facility was to have been part of the "Close To Home" program, which was established by the NYS Legislature and approved by Governor Cuomo in 2009. The concept of Close to Home is to house youthful offenders near their communities and families, instead of in upstate prisons hundreds of miles away. Stated goals are to provide family and community support to the youthful offenders, as well as medical and mental health treatment.

As our civic's slogan says, United Effort Reaps United Gain. This facility was sure to open if it hadn't been for the unrelenting protests of the local civic groups.

#### JOINT BELLEROSE BUSINESS DISTRICT TO CELEBRATE 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

In 1995 local residents of Bellerose Manor, Bellerose Terrace, and Bellerose Village, concerned about the abandoned Bellerose Theatre, all boarded up and graffitied, and other aspects of the shopping district that were uninviting, joined together to form the Joint Bellerose Business District Development Corporation. Many things have been accomplished, although more needs to be done. Nevertheless, they will be having a celebratory luncheon at Nancy's Restaurant (255-41 Jericho Turnpike) on October 17 at 1 PM. Tickets are \$40 for a four-course lunch with nine entree choices. Awards will be given out as well. Creedmoor Civic will be in attendance as Creedmoor Civic is represented on the board of directors. If you are interested in buying a ticket, please contact James Trent at [jtrent8830@aol.com](mailto:jtrent8830@aol.com).

#### VOTE ON SPEED BUMPS FOR 89 AVE.

At our June meeting we discussed requesting that the Dept of Transportation install speed humps on 89<sup>th</sup> Ave as a means of slowing traffic. We will vote on this issue at our September 14 meeting.

### BRADDOCK PHARMACY

236-01 BRADDOCK AVE.

347-1516



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## Creedmoor Civic News

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## President's Message

We mourn the passing of Bruno DeFrancesci, longtime President of the North Bellerose Civic Association and member of Community Board 13. Even while Bruno was waging a long battle against a debilitating illness, he still remained active in civic issues. We express our condolences to Bruno's wife, Lucy, and his family.

As you know, the City Council seat for District 23 has been vacant since last spring when Mark Weprin resigned to take a position in Governor Cuomo's administration. The local civic associations sponsored a Candidates' Night on Tuesday, September 8, for candidates seeking the Democratic Party nomination in a Primary held on September 10. There will be another Candidates' Night on October 8. We will invite the winner of the Democratic Primary and Joe Concannon, the Republican nominee.

We got a great response from the dues envelopes that were distributed during the spring. We also received many generous donations. Thanks! At present, there are 161 paid members. Our goal is to see that number rise to at least 200. We will publish a roster of paid members in our November newsletter. Annual dues remain at \$6 for 2015, and will rise to \$10, effective January 1, 2016.

In addition to members, we also need help: We have vacancies on our Board of Governors, especially for Recording Secretary. If our civic is to remain relevant, we need to attract active members who truly represent our community. We are reaching out to residents of different ages and backgrounds to become more active in our civic association.

Your neighbor,

Michael O'Keeffe

### BRADDOCK RESURFACING UPDATE

We have been notified by DOT that the resurfacing of Braddock Ave from Hillside Avenue to Winchester Blvd is scheduled for the spring of 2016. We will continue to work to have this done as soon as possible.

### LOCAL BRIDGE NAMED FOR P.O. LOPEZ

The bridge on Jamaica Av. over the Cross Island Pkwy has been named the Police Officer Arthur Lopez Memorial Bridge. Nassau County Officer Lopez was shot to death at Jamaica Av. and 241 St. on October 23, 2012 after stopping a car that had left the scene of an accident. Queens resident Darrell Fuller was convicted of Officer Lopez's murder in September of 2014, and was sentenced to life without parole (Newsday 8/12/15)

## Around the Town

❖ **Condolences to:** the family of Ed Vorel on his recent passing. Ed lived on Gettysburg Street for over 40 years and was a Board member of the Creedmoor Civic Assn. Ed's brother, Frank, delivers our newsletters on the 88 block of Lyman St.

❖ **Condolences to:** the family of Bruno DeFrancesci, who passed away after a long illness. Bruno was the President of the North Bellerose Civic Assn (*see President's Message*).

❖ **Congratulations to:** Lydia Connelly of 238<sup>th</sup> Street on her retirement from her teaching career at P.S. 33.

❖ **Congratulations to:** Congratulations to Bellerose civic leader Richard Hellenbrecht for receiving the New York State Senate Liberty Medal in recognition of over 40 years of service to our community. Rich was among four civic leaders who were nominated for the award by Sen. Tony Avella. Among the many positions Rich has held are Chair of Community Board 13, President of the Queens Civic Congress, and President of the Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association. Rich is currently the chairperson of the CB 13 Land Use Committee (Times-Ledger 8/12/15).



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