

Live meeting Sept. 11 7:30 PM

Living Hope Church - Braddock Avenue between 240th and 241st Streets, Basement Room



Creedmoor Civic News

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

SEPTEMBER, 2023



"UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN"



Website: www.creedmoorcivic.org



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CREEDMOOR TENT CITY RUNNING AT FULL CAPACITY

The Creedmoor HERRC (Humanitarian Emergency Response and Relief Center) opened on August 15. There were 150 occupants by August 16, when a protest rally took place there. It is run by NYC Health and Hospitals.

On August 29, Borough President Donovan Richards held the second Zoom meeting on the facility. Some highlights from the meeting:

As of August 29th, there were 948 individuals at the Creedmoor site. The men come from countries including Columbia, Venezuela, Ukraine, Turkey, Russia, Mauritania, and many others. During intake at the Roosevelt Hotel, they are given a health screening including Covid, TB and Varicella tests, and vaccinations. There is repeat testing at Creedmoor.

Since the decision to open the Creedmoor tent city was made public, there have been three large rallies at that location, and several rallies at the offices of elected officials. A rally is planned for Friday, September 8. At the August 16 rally at least three arrests were made after protestors blocked traffic on Hillside Avenue in front of the gate to the Tent City.

About 90% of those arriving at Creedmoor have paperwork issued by security officials on the southern border. Each person meets with a caseworker to identify his needs: how to get a work permit, how to get OSHA training, how to take English classes, etc. About twenty men are discharged from the Creedmoor site each day because they have made other arrangements (job, family, friends, etc.).

NY State and NYC Health and Hospitals both have transition and relocation programs. Individuals are not given a stipend. Some are working for cash, mainly in construction or as delivery workers. It takes 150 days to qualify for a work permit. People who qualify for Temporary Protected Status can get work permits faster. TPS is for people from sixteen countries including, Afghanistan, El Salvador, Som-

SEPTEMBER 11 MEETING WILL BE LIVE



Guest speaker confirmed: State Senator Toby Ann Stavisky. (Invited and awaiting confirmation: City Council Member Linda Lee.) Hear first hand updates on the Creedmoor Tent City and other issues affecting our neighborhood. Bring a neighbor. Free refreshments.

alia, and Ukraine.

There are twenty security guards on site. The 105th Pct has two officers 24/7 at the entrance and NCOs are giving the site special attention. There is a security camera inside the campus.

To reduce crowding on buses that run near the HERC, a shuttle bus system has been established for transit to a Jamaica subway stop. Shelter managers are working with DOT to provide bike racks and corrals for e bikes and scooters. (Batteries are not allowed inside tents). Some of the concerns that were raised by local residents and elected officials: Congregating at Det. William Gunn Park on Hillside and 235 Ct; crowding and loitering at bus stops; trespassing on private property.

To report specific issues, email creedmoorHERRCfeedback@nychhc.org. It is best to include location, date, and time of issue with a photo or video.



Creedmoor Civic News

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AROUND THE TOWN

Condolences: to the family of Mary Walker, longtime resident of 239 St, on her recent passing.

Condolences: to the family of Pat O'Keeffe, a former resident of 240 St, on her recent passing.

Condolences: to the family of Bill Dixon, former resident of 238 St, on his recent passing. Bill's late wife, Linda, served on the CCA board for several years.

AND THE WINNER IS.....The Reategui family from 238 St is the winner of a \$20 gift certificate to Braddock Pharmacy. The winner is selected from the 2022 roster of members who have paid their dues. This is funded by an anonymous donor.

CRIME PREVENTION SURVEY

PO Samantha Raffo is the 105th Pct Crime Prevention Officer. To schedule a security survey for your home or business, leave a message for PO Raffo at 929-291-8584. She will get back to you ASAP. Her usual work schedule is Tuesday-Saturday from noon- 8 pm.

SECTOR EDDIE BUILD THE BLOCK MEETING

Sector Eddie Neighborhood Coordinating Officers Det Juan Villanueva and PO Jonathan Pesce will hold a Build the Block meeting on Wednesday, Sept 13 at 7 pm at the Next City Church, located at 240-15 Hillside Ave.

Enclosed herewith are my dues for the year 2023 to the Creedmoor Civic Association, Inc. (\$10 per household)

Name _____

Address _____

Enclosed is an additional donation of \$ _____ Email address (optional) _____

Make check payable to Creedmoor Civic Association and mail to P. O Box 260143, Bellerose, NY 11426-0143

President's Message

Creedmoor Civic officers and members have opposed the tent city at Creedmoor since it was first proposed, believing it to be a bad location for the community and for the migrants themselves. We have attended press conferences, worked with our elected officials, attended rallies, and sent emails.

Now that the complex is built and fully occupied, we will provide information, work to minimize negative impacts on the community and continue to advocate for the closure of the facility and the relocation of the migrants to a more suitable location.

Your neighbor,
Michael O'Keeffe

COMMUNITY YARD SALE

This sale will take place Saturday, September 16 from 10 am- 2 pm at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, located at 246-55 87 Ave. A space to sell from costs \$25. Call 718-347-0278 for more information.

SAFE DISPOSAL EVENT

The Dept of Sanitation will hold a SAFE collection event (Solvents, Automotive, Flammables, and Electronics) at Cunningham Park this Sunday, September 10 from 10 am to 4 pm. Exit the Grand Central Parkway to Francis Lewis Blvd northbound. There will be signs leading into the park.



Hundreds gather in front of the Det. Gunn playground across the street from the Tent City in protest of the migrant camp on August 16th..