



Creedmoor Civic News

MONTHLY NEWS LETTER of the CREEDMOOR CIVIC ASSOCIATION, Inc.

March, 1974

Vol. 43, No. 5

PARENTS, DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR CHILDREN ARE?

The Civic hot-line rings: "This town is looking like East New York." The president's door bell rings: "Windows are being broken on our block, and the residents are being intimidated." The Patrol phone rings: "Someone is going to get killed hitching onto the car bumpers on these icy streets." And so it has gone, this past month. More phone calls and personal visits during one month than can be remembered during any other one month period in the past.

None of the above message excerpts sound related, yet they all are. All refer to problems created by the young'uns of our community. The first and perhaps most serious refers to an empty house in the neighborhood which was wrecked by youngsters much in the same manner vacant buildings in so-called "ghetto" neighborhoods are destroyed. How can this happen in our civic area? Surely parents teach their children better. Yet, day after day, residents living in proximity of this house watched the vandalism, and apparently did nothing. The first complaints, believe it or not, that were registered with the Civic Association were from members not even living on the block in question. This house is now so badly damaged, we only hope it can be sold and repaired. Otherwise it may have to be torn down. If that is the case, the land could easily be sold and developed to a brick 3-family house, not hard to do with our present zoning situation. How would it look-- a three-story flat-roofed building in a row with 2½ story peaked-roofed houses. Well, whose to blame? A fire in that house is not hard to imagine. And with only 10-foot driveways, it would be easy for the house next door to catch fire also. In fact, just this very thing happened in Hollis a few weeks ago. Did the parents know their children were busy smashing windows all day? Parents can't know everything their children do, of course. But this went on for days on end.

For those who are interested, the Patrol notified the Police, who in turn notified the Health and Buildings Departments. It is expected that shortly the owners will board up the place to prevent anymore illegal entry. Our thanks go to our chief of patrol, Bill Mattis for staking out the house and getting hold of the owners as they came to check on the house.

The other message refers to local brats who have virtually taken over other people's property. They retaliate by breaking windows with B-B guns if the homeowners complain to the parents, or chase the kids off their property.

The last message refers to a dangerous sport wherein the kids latch onto the bumpers of cars when the streets are icy, much like water skiing. If the car

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Regular Meeting Mar. 5 (Tues.), 8:00 pm
at St. Gregory's Church, 242 St. & 88 Rd.

AGENDA

1. Committee and Officer Reports
2. Speakers: the owners of Dean Realty Co.
3. Patrol Report
4. Possible rezoning of P.S. 33 and JHS 109
5. Unfinished Business
6. New Business
7. Refreshments at conclusion of meeting.

This month we have invited Peggy Dean and her husband who operate the Dean Realty Company in Queens Village to address our members. They are NOT here to sell houses, but to discuss a serious problem involving allegations made against them by the City Human Rights Commission in relation to their conduct of business. We feel sure you will want to hear Peggy and John relate the injustices they have suffered at the hands of Commissioner Eleanor Holmes Norton and her commission **henchmen**. Their case is fraught with examples of how government is dictating in an increasing fashion our every move and decision. The Deans will need help to fight their case and are calling on the Queens Village community to help restore freedom and justice, not only in the real estate business, but in our regular lives. This meeting is a must for all who care about the future of our community and the implications the Human Rights Commission decision in the case will have on us.

Also to be discussed are the plans afloat to make radical changes in the structural organization of P.S. 33 and J.H.S. 109. At this point we still do not have all the facts of the plan, but expect to by the date of the meeting. A public hearing is being held on the issue the same night as our meeting. However, we intend to have another civic association carry our brief down to the hearing where it is being held in a Laurelton school. The hearing is being sponsored by Community School Board #29.

We still have a supply of those free Police Department booklets, "How to Protect your House or Apartment." They may be had by attending our next meeting.

Our chief of patrol, Mr. William Mattis, as per custom, will be called upon to relate events of special interest to our members that have occurred during the operation of our patrol during the last month.

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Crime in 105 Pct. Takes Dive

Crime in the 105th Precinct for three specific categories has shown a marked decline, in figures released by the precinct recently. Several weeks ago figures were published in the Long Island Press which showed the 105 very high in crime compared to other precincts. But these figures were based on the old larger precinct boundaries, and at that time the 105 was the second largest precinct in geographical area in the City.

The new figures shown below have been adjusted to compare the new 105 lines with the precinct as it would have existed had the split been made over a year ago. In other words, those sectors which were deleted from the southern portion of the 105 in the reorganization, were deleted also from the 1972 statistics to give a true crime reading. If there wasn't this adjustment, the figures would obviously show a reduction in crime because the precinct is now much smaller than it was in November, 1972.

ROBBERY

December, 1972 to December, 1973.....36% DROP
 January, 1973 to January, 1974.....40% DROP

BURGLARY

November, 1972 to November, 1973.....21% DROP
 December, 1972 to December, 1973.....46% DROP
 January, 1973 to January, 1974.....53% DROP

AUTO THEFT

December, 1972 to December, 1973..... 8% DROP
 January, 1973 to January, 1974.....21% DROP

While the Precinct cannot prove it, they have announced that it is their belief that the formation and expansion of the civilian patrols and auxiliary police patrols are undoubtedly responsible for this magnificent reduction in the crime rate in these categories. Creedmoor Civic Association will attempt to get the crime statistics for Sector T in which we are located to compare more closely the crime rate as it occurs in our localized community. Then we can check on the effectiveness of our own patrol.

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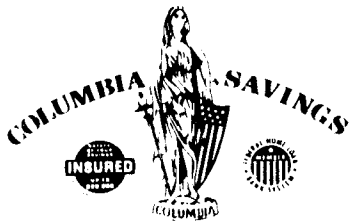
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Around Town

Cardo's Restaurant was strained to capacity last February 1st on the occasion of Creedmoor Civic's first catered installation in decades. Many civic and political notables were seen among the 110 guests that gathered that night. Our installing officer for the night, Councilman Matthew Troy was called away suddenly just before the meeting to attend to business on saving the 35¢ fare. We are fortunate that Senator Frank Padvan and Assemblyman John Esposito agreed to install the officers and board members jointly, "Huntley-Brinkley style." We thank them for filling in in a pinch.

Former Commanding Officer of the 105, Walter Farrell has written to James Trent, president of Creedmoor Civic and says that although he has been transferred to Police Headquarters, because of his living close to our area, he still is very much interested in our community. He asks that Creedmoor Civic Association continue fighting hard so that New York City might continue to grow. He asks that this message be passed on to our members, which we are glad to do via this newsletter.

Mrs. Vivian Bailey, president of the St. Albans Civic Improvement Association, has been elected president of the 105 Community Council, succeeding Mr. Richard Addison. The election meeting was one of the biggest in a long time, possibly because it was the first council meeting since the wrecking of the "Jack in the Box" restaurant.

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Parents, Do You Know Where Your Children Are?

Continued from P. 1

stops short, the kids go flying underneath the car. Brilliant!

We won't dwell on the subject except to say that in the past complaints to parents netted the usual, "not my Johnny, he wouldn't do such things." Oh no? The Civic News has been told by the Civilian Patrol that it will no longer tolerate harrassment of its volunteers by any youngsters. Instead of going to the parents, they will call the police. The patrol is serious business. They are recognized and backed by the New York City Police Department. The parents can find out about the behavior of their kids when the detective comes to their door. Likewise we have been informed that the residents who have been pestered by kids are willing to press charges. Permissiveness has taken its toll. Peace will be restored to our community. We advise parents to warn their offspring of the get-tough attitude being adopted by the residents of this neighborhood.

The Creedmoor Civic News does not make policy. It is not the Civic News that is getting tough, we are just reporting what others who have been victims of the abuse of these youngsters are prepared to do to restore tranquillity to their blocks. Of course most of the youth of our area are well-behaved and respective of private property. But for those that are not, they are going to find out that there is a penalty to pay.

ESPOSITO GIVES SPUR TOP BILLING

Assemblyman John Esposito and Senator Frank Padvan have rewritten the bill to mandate the selling of the defunct Creedmoor Branch of the Long Island Rail Road which runs through our Civic area. We will read the draft of the bill we have received from Mr. Esposito. Several changes were made, and we are hoping that Governor Wilson will see fit to sign the bill into law if it passes both houses of the legislature. It appears that some of the objections raised against the bill last time around have been overcome, so we hope it won't be long before our homeowners on 88th Avenue will receive deeds to their extra piece of backyard. The political climate is such that it is unlikely that Gov. Wilson will want to veto what could become an important local political issue in this area.

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GOOD NEWS ABOUT BROTHERS DELI

We are happy to report that contrary to the rumor published in these pages last month, Brothers Italian-American Delicatessen at Jamaica Avenue and 245th Street has not lost its lease, but will be staying on. It seems that they recently negotiated a new lease with the landlord which will permit them to stay after the expiration of the one now in force.

A spokesman for Brothers Deli told the Civic News that a steady stream of customers filed into the store "up in arms" that the store might close. This points out again our contention that local retail outlets are vital to our community. However, as mentioned above, the Deli has signed a long lease and will be able to continue to serve our community.

If we are to retain our stores, we must PATRONIZE them. Shop at our local stores, and read over our ads, they deserve special consideration (Brothers Deli is also one of our advertisers.)

Brothers Deli features a full line of cold cuts, imported Italian foods, and is known for their fine catering talents.

PLANNING BOARDS ADOPT USES FOR FARM ACRES

Community Planning Boards 11 and 13 have announced their decision on the future use of the 58 surplus acres at Creedmoor State Hospital. Uses included are recreation for both community use and patients of the Queens Childrens Hospital; a field station for Queens College for study of botany and ecology, and some acreage for use in the study of agriculture and horticulture on the high school level of the public schools, mostly John Bowne High (Flushing) and Martin Van Buren (Queens Village.) In addition, the bulk of the land will be turned over to the Parks Department for development of a tree farm. The TRIUMPH plan for the 6.6 acres on the hill was endorsed (a plan for a village for retarded children.) We now await the City Planning Commission for their decision, then it will be up to Albany to finalize the plan and authorize the transfer of land to the City.

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