



Creedmoor Civic News

MONTHLY NEWS LETTER of the CREEDMOOR CIVIC ASSOCIATION, Inc.

SUMMER, 1974

VOL. 46, NO. 9

FOOD CHAIN NIXES

BELLEROSE STORE IDEA

Refusing to toss in the towel after Creedmoor Civic's unsuccessful bid to keep the Great A & P Tea Company from leaving town, Creedmoor Civic president, James Trent, contacted the Associated Food Store headquarters in Jamaica in the hopes of attracting a franchise into our area.

A spokesman for Associated Cooperative, which doesn't own any of its own stores, but gives franchises out to individuals wishing to use their name, indicated that the food chain business is very bad what with more and more government regulations and taxes, the profit margin has become increasingly slim. To open a store in our area at about 5,000 square feet would cost over \$200,000. excluding the cost of stocking. Now with the sales tax in New York City 1¢ higher than in Nassau County, the spokesman indicated he could not in conscience recommend to a prospective franchisee to locate in our area.

Creedmoor Civic contacted Associated because the vice president at A & P indicated that their old store, now the site of Martin Paint, could have operated profitably if it were a family operation, but Associated denied that a family operation could make out any better. Now with Bohack on the rocks, the prospect of finding any food chain to locate in the downtown section of Bellerose, looks dimmer still.



CREEDMOOR CIVIC ASSOCIATION CIVILIAN PATROL Captain Bill Mattis (right) of Bellerose receives Certificate for Good Service from Capt. William Visser, commanding officer of 105th Precinct, Queens Village, as Creedmoor Civic Association President James Trent (left) looks on during meeting of 105 Council on June 26 in Queens Reformed Church, Jamaica Ave. and Springfield Blvd. Twenty one civilian patrols were cited.

(Queens Illustrated News Staff Photo)

CIVILIAN PATROL AWARDED CERTIFICATE

Creedmoor Civic's Civilian Patrol, headed by Patrol Chief William Mattis of Moline St., was the recipient of an award granted by the 105 Police Precinct for outstanding service. Creedmoor Civilian Patrol is one of the largest in the 105 Precinct. The patrol is currently involved in another membership drive. If you have already responded, we thank you, if you haven't, won't you please help out by filling out the flyer you received and returning it as soon as possible. Residents who are not members of the Association did not receive applications, but may join the patrol anyway. Call 343-8830 for an application blank. We are endeavoring to fill all vacancies by our general meeting in September.

THIS IS NOT A MEETING NOTICE AS NO MEETINGS ARE HELD DURING JULY AND AUGUST. Next scheduled meeting is expected to take place Tuesday, September 3, 1974 at St. Gregory's Oak Room.

Creedmoor Civic's gala Braddock Park festival is scheduled to take place on September 21, 1974. In addition to such city-supplied events as the free skate mobile, Creedmoor Civic is expected to supply live music. More on this at our meeting and in the September newsletter.

QUEENS VILLAGE PARKING FIELD

The site selection board has approved the site of the bombed-out Queens Village O.T.B. at 218th Street and Jamaica Avenue for a municipal parking field. The project will commence as a field with provision for future vertical expansion. This appears to be a reversal of the City's original commitment to build stores on the first floor with parking on the roof. Meanwhile, the plot thickens as Councilman Matthew J. Troy fires off a letter to Burger King and the Padigen Construction Corp. warning them not to go ahead with plans of building a hamburger restaurant on the site. Troy warned of condemnation proceedings and a lawsuit by the City if they proceed.

TREE FARM VICTORY CRYSTALIZES

By now all have read of the City Parks Department's reversal on their interest on the 52 surplus acres at Creedmoor State Hospital. Now they would like not only the 40 acres we offered, but all 52 if we would give it to them. They plan a horticultural test center, with provision for visitation by the public, recreation, and further provision for use of the site by the Board of Education and Queens College. Right now the Parks Department is finalizing their specific requirements. The community will then review the Parks plans for approval. Price of the land is still not settled, but the State informs us that until we have a final plan of action, they cannot determine what price they will ask. Price, they say, is determined on how well a use we put the land. At this point it looks as though the community is successful in preventing any construction on this prime farmland. The City Planning Commission backed off quickly after the stinging reaction of civic leaders when the plan for 900 units of housing was revealed by the L.I. Press.

DETECTIVE CHISLEY RETIRES

With opportunity knocking, Detective Herbert Chisley of the community relations office of the 105 Police Precinct has decided to turn in his papers to pursue a career with Con Ed. We wish Herb the best of luck in his new endeavor. Meanwhile Ptl. John LaLota continues in public relations and is joined by Ptl. McIntyre.

DID YOU KNOW? that the City Transit Authority spent 2½ million dollars last year removing graffiti from subway and bus property?

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news briefs

WINNER OF OUR CIVILIAN PATROL raffle for 4 tickets to a Met game at Shea Stadium was the Koprivnik family of 89th Avenue. Winning ticket was sold by Charlotte LeVien, also of 89th Avenue. Much credit for the success of the raffle goes to members of the patrol itself who sold many books while making the rounds of the community.

DUES ARE DUE for the year 1974. Most of the dues collection by our captains has been completed. If you were missed, mail or bring the money (\$2.00 per family) to Ed Wohlfort, Financial Secretary, 89-21 Moline Street. Please bring or mail in with your dues money your membership card so that it can be updated on the back. New members should indicate that you require a card.

BRADDOCK PHASE 2 contract which will complete Braddock Avenue repaving from Moline Street to the southbound lanes of the Cross Island Parkway service road has been delayed. Originally expected to get under way in August, projection is now early fall. Meanwhile, work is progressing swiftly on Phase 1 from Springfield Blvd. to Moline Street. Two hundred feet of storm sewer has also been installed because Pontiac Street was lacking a sewer to pick up water at its intersection with Braddock Ave.

FOR SALE: "The Story of Queens Village", at \$5. a copy. This collector's item is being sold by the Association on behalf of the Queens Village Centennial Association. Copies may be picked up at 242-29 90th Ave. This softbound book, 8½ x 11", 160 pages, is loaded with nostalgic pictures of old Queens Village, with some text and pictures touching the Bellerose and Creedmoor areas. The book was authored by Vincent F. Seyfried, member of the Long Island Historical Society and a teacher at Martin Van Buren High School.

WILAC, (Willow Lake Action Committee) has asked Creedmoor Civic president James Trent to act as consultant in its fight to foil Lefrak's attempts to build 4500 units of housing, much of it high-rise, over the IND subway yards next to Willow Lake in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. The Kew Gardens-Flushing area is understandably "up in arms" over this latest move by the Big Builders to undo the tranquil beauty of Queens County in their search for more profits. Creedmoor area residents, already staring up at Sigmund Sommers' elephants at Glen Oaks understand what the battle is all about.

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Around Town We are sorry to learn that Board member, Josephine Knepple was hospitalized for knee surgery. Our best wishes to Jo for a speedy recovery. Jo lives at 88-50 240th St.

All are welcome to the Torry Botanical Club's tour of Greenwood Cemetery, considered one of the nation's most beautiful cemeteries. Meet at 5th Avenue and 25th Street, Brooklyn. Time: 10 A.M. on August 17th, Saturday. Bring your own lunch and wear comfortable shoes, as the terrain is hilly.

Congratulations to the Fabio family of 89th Avenue on the occasion of the birth of a bouncing baby boy in July.

WAYS TO KILL ANY ASSOCIATION

1. Don't come to the meetings.
2. But if you do come, come late.
3. If the weather doesn't suit, don't come.
4. If you do attend a meeting, find fault with the work of the officers and members.
5. Never accept an office, it's easier to criticize than to do things.
6. Nevertheless, get sore if you are not appointed on a committee, but if you are appointed, don't attend the committee meetings.
7. If asked by the president to give your opinion on an important matter, tell him or her you have nothing to say, after the meeting tell everyone how things should be done.
8. Do nothing more than is necessary, but when other members roll up their sleeves and willingly and unselfishly use their ability to help matters along, howl that the organization is run by a clique.
9. Don't bother about new members, let the other fellow do it.
10. Condemn the officers when the organization folds.

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HOW CREEDMOOR GOT ITS NAME
(Condensed from The Story of Queens Village
by Vincent F. Seyfried)

On July 8, 1872 a deputation of militiamen visited the Creed Farm to check on its suitability for a parade ground. Curiously, the area had as yet no name other than Queens. One of the directors of the National Rifle Association, H.G. Shaw, in a book entitled, "Pacific Life", tells how Creedmoor got its name:

"The next day the directors were to meet and I felt that I ought to have a name to suggest. Suddenly, it occurred to me that it would be a good idea to call it after Creed (B. Hendrickson Creed, former owner). So I jumped up, struck a light, and scribbled off with a pencil the words Creeding, Creedam, Creedville, Creedum, Creedom, Creedmont, Creedshot, Creedflat, Creedplain, Creedfield, Creedmarsh, Creedmoor. I returned to bed and fell asleep with a fixed resolution that I would next day submit some one or the other of the above names. At breakfast, I settled upon "Creedmoor" as the most breezy and euphonious word. I wrote the same in Roman characters on a piece of paper in order to impress the eye as well as the ears of my associates. I showed the name to Wingate (secretary of the Rifle Assn.), but he did not seem to fancy it. When the question came up at the meeting, I suggested Creedmoor. It sounded like so much Greek to the board, for after the paper upon which I had written the now famous word had passed around, it was quietly dropped on the table. I said nothing and did not join in the half hour's discussion which followed during which several other names were suggested. Nearly every gentleman present had some pet name to propose but none would yield to the other. Finally someone moved that the question of naming the range be postponed. Then Major George Moore Smith of the N.Y. 7th picked up my card, turned it over once or twice and said he didn't see why Creedmoor was not as good a name as any that could be thought of. Mr. Alexander W. Craven wanted to know what it meant, and upon my informing him, he thought that the name

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WOULD-BE SPUR OWNERS TOLD TO SIT TIGHT

To those residents of 88th Avenue who think we've forgotten them, the answer is we haven't, but we are not ready to make any moves just yet. Assemblyman John Esposito has met with the Long Island Rail Road and papers are in the process of being drawn up which will permit the adjacent homeowners to take possession of their land.

A meeting will be called of all spur-interested families, not only of Creedmoor Civic, but of the three other civic associations involved as well.

Currently thinking calls for hiring one surveyor for all 191 property owners and sharing the cost among them all. This will save each family much money and speed up the transfer of land. Committees will be formed from each civic group to take one final canvas to find out who is buying and who is not interested. Then we will determine who among the adjacent homeowners will purchase the parcel that was rejected by the homeowner who adjoins it.

How Creedmoor Got Its Name

Continued from Page 5

would be the very thing. Then the others called for a reading of the word, and after each had pronounced it for himself two or three times, Creedmoor was, I believe, unanimously adopted as the title. This was at a meeting of the directors held on the 23rd of July, 1872. The name appeared in the "New York Sun" on the following day. This was the first time the name ever appeared in print anywhere."

(If you enjoyed reading this tract, then you would want to own a copy of "The Story of Queens Village", details on page 3 of this issue of Creedmoor News.)

Creedmoor Civic News
 MONTHLY NEWS LETTER of the
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