

# THE QUEENS VILLAGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

# NEWSLETTER

OCT. 2007

*We Don't Complain About Problems — We Work On Solutions*

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**CIRCULATION MANAGER: Dawn Insanalli**

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Dear Members and Neighbors,

Fall and winter seem to be coming late this year, so let's enjoy the warm temperatures and a break on our home heating bills. But don't forget to start winterizing your home.

In recent months, there has been an increase in home invasions in our community. Also, there was a gun episode at Martin Van Buren High School. Perhaps the time has come for us to let our elected officials know of the increasing crime in our community and call for them to strongly support an additional precinct in the area covered by the 105<sup>th</sup> Precinct, which polices the largest geographic territory in Queens. This would give us more police and more walking patrol officers. Another precinct, Precinct 116, has been proposed for many years by our civic association and other community organizations to help reduce the 105<sup>th</sup> Precinct's present coverage. So please take the time to call or write to our elected officials to ask them to help us get the additional precinct we need. (They are listed in the advertising pages of our newsletter.) Our Congressman Gregory Meeks has a Task Force working on this issue.

To be safer in your home, keep all doors and windows locked, especially at night, and when going out, even for a short period of time. You can schedule a free crime prevention survey of your home or business by contacting the 105<sup>th</sup> Crime Prevention Officer Brian Wimpelberg at 718-776-9207.

You can help to eradicate the blight of graffiti from our community by reporting it promptly to 311. Also call 311 if your property has been graffitied and you need help to have it removed. (Refer to article in the news page.)

Although the Lawn Litter Bill has been signed by Governor Spitzer, it will not go into effect until January, 2008, as details of the issuance of fines and the size and language of the lawn signs that will prevent advertisements from being thrown on your property must be worked out.

The booklet entitled "Senior Citizen," issued by the office of Queens Borough President Helen Marshall, will be available at the meeting. I hope to see you there.

Stay well. God bless.

Yours truly,



Amelia A. Kent



Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 16  
8:00 P. M.

Place: Stewart Hall  
Our Lady of Lourdes Church  
Springfield Blvd. & 93<sup>rd</sup> Ave.

On the Agenda: Annual Audit, Discussion  
Of Community Problems

FROM  
QUEENS VILLAGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION  
P.O. BOX 0766  
QUEENS VILLAGE, NEW YORK 11428-0766

Our newest member is Barbara Paeth, who resides on 222<sup>nd</sup> Street. Glad to have you aboard. We achieved our goal of 200 plus paid members in our 2006-2007 civic year. We hope to do better as we begin our new civic year that runs through August, 2008. You can help by renewing your membership and telling your neighbors about us and asking them to join us at our monthly meetings. We need you to increase our strength and our clout as we fight for programs and City services to maintain and improve our quality of life. As a member, you will have our newsletter delivered to your home and receive our support in helping to remove problems in the community that diminish your peace and comfort. Your support is gratefully appreciated.

**DUES ARE NOW DUE**

With the beginning of our new civic year on September 1, the time has come to pay your 2007-2008 annual dues of \$5.00. As well as your moral support, we need your financial assistance to pursue our advocacy for Queens Village and publish our newsletter. Kindly remit your dues to our Financial Secretary Dawn Insanalli at this month's meeting or mail your check, payable to the Queens Village Civic Association, to PO Box 0766, Queens Village, NY, 11428.

**SENIOR HEALTH AND INFO EXPO AT SNAP**

A Fall Senior Health and Info Expo, sponsored by Senator Frank Padavan, will be conducted by Services Now for Adult Persons (SNAP) on Friday, October 26, from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P. M., at 80-45 Winchester Boulevard, Building E#4, CBU #29, at the Creedmoor Complex in Queens Village. Blood pressure, glucose, cholesterol, glaucoma, and wellness and dental screening will be available, along with information on Long Term Care, Home-Care, Hospice, EPIC, and Medicare Part D. A Podiatrist and an Elder Law Expert will be on hand to answer your questions. Refreshments will be served. Call 718-343-0255 for more information.

**RENEWAL OF YOUR DO NOT CALL REGISTRY**

The "Do Not Call Registry" expires in June of 2008. You must register again to get on the list. To re-register or register call 1-888-382-1222. The registry forbids unwanted sales calls to your home and calls from telemarketers. Exempted are political operations, charities, telephone surveys, and businesses that you deal with. Violators face fines of up to \$2,000.

**JAZZ AND POP MUSIC AT OUR LIBRARY**

On Saturday, October 13, at 3:00 P. M., our Queen Village Library Branch, located at 94-11 217<sup>th</sup> Street, will present a Tribute to *Blues in Pop and Jazz Sounds*. The Ken Simon Quartet will highlight the music of Stevie Wonder, Miles Davis, Ray Charles, Cannonball Adderly, and others whose memorable songs were influenced by the blues

The Queens County Farm Museum, located at 73-50 Little Neck Parkway in Floral Park, will hold its annual Children's Fall Festival on Sunday, October 28, from 11:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. Youngsters are invited to wear their Halloween costumes and visit the haunted house. Professional look-a-likes will be there. You can make your own scarecrow. Craft vendors will display and sell fall items. Vendors will serve tasty food. There will be country music and dancing. Enjoy sack races, hayrides, pony rides, petting zoo, tours of the historic farmhouse, and the farmhouse's famous Amazing Maize Maze, a three-acre interactive corn maze.

Admission for the festival and the haunted house is \$4.00 each. Admission to the maze is \$7.00 for adults, children ages 4-11, \$4.00, and children ages 3 and under free. Parking is free.

**TIPS FROM THE NYPD FOR A SAFE HALLOWEEN**

The following information from the New York City Police Department should be shared by parents and children:

- . Go trick or treating with your friends. Stay out of buildings, homes, and elevators when alone.
- . Stay out of strangers' homes or cars, even if they offer you candy.
- . Let your parents look at all candy and treats before you eat any.
- . If you go out at night, wear bright colored clothing or carry a flashlight.
- . Only go trick or treating in your own neighborhood. Stay close to home.
- . Walk on the sidewalks and stay off the streets. If you have to cross the street, do so at the intersection. If your mask blocks your vision, take it off before you cross any street.
- . Respect the property of the people you visit.

**COMBATING GRAFFITI**

We were working with Parole Officer Richard Harris and his crew during the summer months to paint over the graffiti on stores along Jamaica Avenue and Springfield Boulevard in our civic area. We have gotten great results, although a little of the graffiti has returned. Graffiti is now a felony crime. Those 16 and older found guilty are subject to fines and imprisonment. Owners of commercial buildings with six or more units must eliminate graffiti within 60 days of being notified of a complaint or face fines of \$150 to \$300, although they can get municipal cleaning services by submitting a waiver form to the Mayor's Community Assistance Unit. We are asking you to report graffiti by calling 311. Your complaint will help document the crime and start the process of having it investigated by the police and getting the graffiti removed. You may make the complaint anonymously and not reveal your identity. If your home has been graffitied, call 311 to ask for help to have it removed. Your concern and effort will help to improve our quality of life and make Queens Village a better place.