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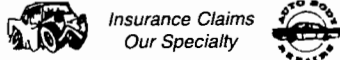
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THE QUEENS VILLAGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC. NEWSLETTER

JAN. 2010

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

EDITOR: Joseph Nickischer

CIRCULATION MANAGER: Nagassar Ramgarib

Our E-Mail address is: QueensVillageCivic@msn.com

Our Web Address is: <http://www.qvca.org>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Queens Villagers,

The Executive Board and I wish you and yours a very happy and healthy New Year. 2010 promises to be a challenging year, so I urge us all to do whatever we can to look out for each other, particularly for the elderly and those less fortunate.

Next, we need to say "thank you" to these members of our civic association: To Sue Ann Amoroso, our Recording Secretary, who graciously offers us the use of her home for our Executive Board meetings. Thanks, Sue Ann, for your hospitality. Likewise to Ram and Roby of Indy Electric, who each year take on the holiday lighting of our tree at Queens Village Veterans Plaza. Thanks for "lighting up" our spirits as well as our neighborhood.

This year is a Census Year. The slogan is: "Be counted in 2010." New York City communities have typically been undercounted and, therefore, have lost out on Federal and State representation and funding. Be informed. Details will be available at this month's meeting. (Refer to article in the news page.)

At our last meeting in November, our guest was Mark Weprin, who had just been elected to be our Councilman in the 23rd District. We congratulate him and look forward to working with him and his staff on our behalf and for the benefit of Queens Village.

Our Lady of Lourdes Church will hold their next blood drive on Sunday, January 24, from 8:30 A.M. to 1:30 P. M., in the school cafeteria in Stewart Hall. Come to give the "Gift of Life." If you need more information, call 917-613-5190.

We have invited a representative from the Fire Department to this month's meeting. Ways to keep our homes safe will be addressed. I look forward to seeing you there. Stay well and keep warm.

Your neighbor,

John Stiller

JANUARY
Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 19
8:00 P. M.
Place: Stewart Hall
Our Lady of Lourdes Church
Springfield Blvd. & 93rd Ave.
On the Agenda: Representative from FDNY

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OUR MEMBERSHIP

Our newest members are Rolaine Antione (94th Avenue) and Fran and Artie Falk (209th Street). Glad to have you aboard! If you've been thinking about joining us, you can do so at our monthly meetings or by using the membership application form in this newsletter. Dues are \$5.00 a year per person. As a member, you will have our newsletter delivered to your home and receive our support in helping to resolve problems in the community that diminish your peace and comfort. We need you to increase our strength and our clout as we fight for City services and programs to maintain and improve our quality of life.

HELP FOR SENIORS TO INSULATE THEIR HOMES

Winter has come earlier this year, bringing biting cold and dangerous wind chill temperatures, making life miserable for many of us. Seniors who cannot afford to insulate their doors and windows and around air conditioning ducts to stop cold drafts can receive help through the City Department of Aging Weatherization Referral and Packaging Program (WRAP). The program also provides for the repair and cleaning of home heating systems. For information and a brochure, call WRAP at 212-442-3055

ARE YOUR DUES DUE?

If you haven't paid you dues, they have been due since September. Please remit your dues at our monthly meetings or by mail to the Queens Village Civic Association, P. O. Box 0766, Queens Village, N. Y., 11428-0766. We need your financial support as well as your moral support. We thank you gratefully.

FREE FOOD

Surplus food is available in our community. For information, call 718-465-7677.

The Queens Baptist Church, located at 93-23 217th Street, has established a "Manna and Quail" Soup Kitchen. The kitchen will be open in Edwards Hall the third Saturday of each month from 12:00 Noon to 2:00 P. M. All are welcome.

MEETING DATES OF THE QVCA

Our civic association will conduct monthly meetings during the current civic year on the following Tuesday dates in 2010: January 19, February 16, March 16, April 20, May 18, and June 15. The meetings, in Stewart Hall at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, located at Springfield Boulevard and 93rd Avenue, begin at 8:00 P. M., and are open to the public.

CENSUS 2010

The United States Census 2010 must count every person living in the United States by April 1, 2010, both citizens and non-citizens. You will receive your ten-question questionnaire in March 2010 either by U. S. mail or hand delivery. Census data determine the number of seats each state will have in the United States House of Representatives. Census data can also help determine the allocation of federal funds for community services such as school lunch programs, senior citizen centers, and new highway and hospital construction. Every year the federal government allocates more than \$400 billion to states and communities based on census data. Households should complete and mail back their questionnaires upon receipt. Census workers will visit households that do not return questionnaires to take a count in person.

We urge you to ensure that you and your household are counted so that we will receive our fair share of representation in Washington and the federal dollars due our state and our communities. Census 2010 needs workers to complete this mandated, gigantic undertaking. Call toll-free 1-866-861-2010 for information on how to get a job with Census 2010.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAINTAIN OUR CIVIC

This year's QVCA Nomination Committee will convene in March to bring in a slate of officers for our 2010-2011 civic year. We are finding it increasing difficult to get members to serve as officers. Hence, we have fewer people to do the work needed to keep us an effective advocate and watchdog for our community. Several civic associations in our area had to fold because they could not attract enough people to do the work. Let's not let that happen to us. Call 718-217-4109 to volunteer your help. Or let us know at our monthly meetings.

FORECLOSURE AID AVAILABLE AT 311

New York City is offering aid to struggling homeowners via 311. Many homeowners are afraid to let lenders know of their financial plight and delay seeking help to save their homes. By asking for help from 311, homeowners in foreclosure will be referred to a non-profit organization that will offer sound advice and often do the legwork for them, and protect them from predatory lenders. Call 311 as your first—and last—resort to save your home.

FEDERAL BENEFITS INFORMATION LINE

Our federal government has created a telephone info line to answer your questions about federal programs and services, such as applying for social security benefits, medicare, and renewing passports. Call 1-800-333-4636, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 A. M. to 8:00 P. M.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

AN INVITATION TO JOIN THE QUEENS VILLAGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

We need not only your financial support, but your contribution of ideas, expertise, and time to make our community a better place. Dues are \$5.00 a year per person. Please mail this form to P.O. Box 0766, Queens Village, NY 11428-0766 or enroll at our meetings. Make your check payable to the Queens Village Civic Association.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE (optional) _____

HOW YOU CAN HELP (optional) _____

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