

# THE QUEENS VILLAGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

# NEWSLETTER

SEPT. 2015

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

EDITOR: Joseph Nickischer

CIRCULATION MANAGER: Chris Trofemuk

Our E-Mail address is: [qvca@qvca.org](mailto:qvca@qvca.org)

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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Neighbors,

I hope everyone is enjoying the wonderful summer. This summer many of our members sacrificed their Saturday mornings protesting the planned "Close to Home" youth detention facility at 207<sup>th</sup> Street and Jamaica Avenue.

Our community protest was spearheaded by our civic and fully supported by our fellow Civic Associations in Eastern Queens, concerned residents, all of the District 23 City Council candidates and Senator Leroy Comrie. Together we were successful in forcing the NYC Administration of Children Services (ACS) to cancel all plans for the facility at 207<sup>th</sup> Street and Jamaica Avenue. I want to thank all those who helped to make this possible; those who came out to the protests, helped prepare and mail petitions and letters to the Governor and other electives, obtaining petition signatures, prepare and distribute flyers, create signs and posters, and those that spoke out at the protest. We need to be vigilant to prevent the ACS from planting these facilities in residential communities.

By the time you receive this newsletter, the result will be out on the September 10<sup>th</sup> Democratic Primary election to fill the vacant City Council position created by Mark Weprin's resignation. The six Democratic candidates are, (1) Bob Friedrich, President of Glen Oaks Village and civic leader; (2) Ali Najmi, Attorney and community activist; (3) Barry Grodenchik, Director in the Queens Borough President's office; (4) Celia Dosamantes, public service and community activist; (5) Satnam Parhar, Builder and Developer and (6) Rebecca Lynch, former NYC Assistant Commissioner for Community Affairs. The winner of the Democratic primary will face off with the Republican candidate Joe Concannon, Security and Risk Management Professional, in the general election on November 3.

I am looking forward to seeing you at our upcoming meeting; please note that the meeting is at 8pm on Tuesday September 22. At this month's meeting we will nominate candidates for office for our election in October.

Your friend and neighbor,



Mohamood Ishmael



Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 22  
8:00 P. M.  
Place: Stewart Hall  
Our Lady of Lourdes Church  
Springfield Blvd. & 93<sup>rd</sup>. Ave.  
On the Agenda Nomination of QVCA Officers

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

## VICTORY FOR QUEENS VILLAGE

Our two-month battle with the New York City Administration for Children's Services for attempting to place a medium-security group home for incarcerated teenagers at 207-01 Jamaica Avenue in Queens Village has been won as ACS has dropped the plan. Your civic association spearheaded the weekly protests against having such a facility placed in a residential area. Our elected officials, civic and community organizations, community leaders, and concerned residents remained steadfast and unswerving in their protest demonstrations at the proposed site. Rarely do you fight City Hall and win. This time happily we won! We gratefully thank all of you who supported our community so vigorously and generously in this matter.

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

If you are a victim of domestic violence, please call the Domestic Violence Hotline at 800-799-7233. A counselor will guide you through the process of safely leaving the relationship. The line is open 24/7 and speaks in many languages.

## 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, renewing passports, grants, tax help, changes in regulations. Call 1-800-333-4636 Monday through Friday, 8:00 A. M. to 8:00 P. M. Or visit their website at [USA.gov](http://USA.gov),



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## 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 \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK HERE IF NEW MEMBER

## EXECUTIVE BOARD 2015

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## **OUR MEMBERSHIP**

Our newest members are Rose Marie Turner and Jean Turner (Springfield Blvd), Frank and Joanne Russo (214 Pl), Vines Vieus (Hollis Court Blvd), Anthony and Judy Lombardo (208 St), Phyllis Neil (100 Ave), Marilyn Figueroa (207 St), Christopher Sepulveda (207 St), Tajraj Bhooraj (208 St), Jasmine Virgile (Jamaica Ave), Sylvia Pilgrim (209 St) Asim Deen (198 St), Drexell L Lewis (218 St), Phil Drenstein (Stronghurst Ave) Marelva Brison (209 St), Bill and Claudia Gray (210 St), Vilma M. Codrington (220 St), Lucita Romulo (208 St), Thomas Hayde (Edmore Ave), and Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Pagan (208 St). Welcome aboard! You can join our organization 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 receive our newsletter and our support to help 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 that help to maintain and improve our quality of life

## **DUES INCREASE**

As approved by the membership in April, our annual dues will be increased to \$10.00 per person, effective January 1, 2016. We gratefully appreciate your continuing support.

## **REPORTING NATURAL GAS LEAKS**

There is an important policy change from the City of New York regarding natural gas leaks. The City now wants residents to call 911 and not just the utility company if they smell gas. Previously, residents who smelled gas were told to call the gas utility company or 311. Now, every call to 311 reporting a gas smell will be transferred to the 911 emergency line and will generate an emergency response from the New York City Fire Department.

## **ELECTION OF OUR OFFICERS**

Your civic association will hold its annual election of officers for 2016 at our October 20 meeting. Nominations will be accepted at this month's meeting. Please give consideration to serving your community in this capacity. You will find the work interesting and rewarding.

## **QVCA ANNUAL DINNER AND INSTALLATION CEREMONY**

Our 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner and Installation of Officers Ceremony will be held on Tuesday evening, November 17, at 7:30 P.M., in Stewart Hall of Our Lady of Lourdes Church. The cost of the buffet dinner is \$12.00 per person for those who pay in advance. Tickets sold at the door on November 17 cost \$15.00. Come and enjoy the delicious food and the good company of your friends and neighbors. Tickets will be available at this month's meeting.

## **ANNUAL QUEENS COUNTY FAIR**

The Queens County Farm Museum, located at 73-50 Little Neck Parkway, will hold its 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Queens County Fair on Saturday and Sunday, September 19 and 20, from 11:00 A. M. to 6:00 P.M. This wonderful family event is a traditional County Fair with Blue Ribbon competitions in livestock, produce, home crafts, arts and crafts, and more. Entertainment includes circus performers, pig racing, pie-eating and corn-husking contests, and carnival rides. Visit the Bavarian Garden and be entertained by the Irish band (Saturday) and the German band (Sunday). The Amazing Maize Maze will be open. The farm stand has locally grown fresh produce for sale. Admission is \$9.00 for adults. Children: \$5.00 (12 and under). Parking is free.

## **IMPORTANT COMMUNITY MEETINGS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

The 105<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council meets on Wednesday, September 23, at 8:00 P. M., in the precinct located at 92-08 222<sup>nd</sup> Street in Queens Village. You can find out about police activity in our neighborhoods and make complaints

Community Board 13Q meets on Monday, September 28, at 7:00 P. M., in the Bellerose Assembly of God Church, 240-15 Hillside Avenue. You can sign in to address the board about your suggestions or complaints.

## **CHURCH BLESSING OF ANIMALS**

Bring your favorite furry, feathery, or scaly friends for the Blessing of Animals at Redeemer Lutheran Church, at 92-10 217<sup>th</sup> Street (corner of 92<sup>nd</sup> Avenue), on Saturday, October 3, at 10:00 A. M. All are welcome.



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