

# THE QUEENS VILLAGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

# NEWSLETTER

MAY 2016

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

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CIRCULATION MANAGER: Chris Trofemuk

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

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Dear Neighbors,

Please do not forget our veterans on Memorial Day on Monday, May 30. They are the reason we enjoy freedom and our way of life. Do something nice this Memorial Day for our local veterans organizations.

Good news for Queens Villagers: Mayor De Blasio has budgeted 70 million dollars for the new 116<sup>th</sup> Precinct at the southern end of Community Board 13Q. Every year for the last 40 years, CB13Q's Number 1 priority has been to have another precinct to help patrol the vast area between Grand Central Parkway and Kennedy Airport. Finally, it is going to happen. (Refer to article in the news page.)

On May 7, I attended another protest rally against the co-location of a Charter High School at IS 109 in Queens Village. The PTA of the school, Senator Leroy Comrie, Councilman Barry Grodenchik, residents, and our civic association are totally against this proposal. Ms. Berry, the PTA president, said that she has over 1,000 plus protest signatures against the plan. It is ill-conceived to have junior and senior high school students mingle with intermediate grade students in the same building, sharing the same facilities (bathroom, cafeteria, auditorium). This is a ticking time bomb. If the Board of Education is sincere about improving the education of our children, it should revert IS109 to what it was originally built for: K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The Board of Education has scheduled a hearing on this co-location plan on Wednesday, May 18, in Long Island City. Senator Comrie and Councilman Grodenchik are trying to arrange bus transportation for protestors to attend the meeting. We will keep you informed about this matter.

Cease and Desist Bill: Daily we are inundated by mailings, post cards, and ads that are stuffed or thrown on our property by real estate brokers. Senator Tony Avella has sponsored a bill to stop this unwanted solicitation. I hope that it will be passed by the state legislature. This law was first sponsored by then Senator Frank Padavan, but the law has expired. I am horrified and ashamed by the behavior of many speakers for the real estate industry. I hope that you have not forgotten the recent mortgage crisis. I do believe in free enterprise, but I support this law that gives me the opportunity to get on a "cease and desist list" that prevents real estate brokers from bombarding me with their ads.

I hope to see you on May 17.

Your friend and neighbor,



Nagassar (Ram) Ramngarib



Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 17  
8:00 P. M.

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

On the Agenda: Discussion of Community  
Problems

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

**QUEENS VILLAGE BENEFITS BIG FROM PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING**


This year, residents of New York City Council 23 participated in the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Cycle of Participatory Budgeting (PB), a process through which local residents decide how some government funds are spent. After being elected last fall, 23 District Council Member Barry S. Grodenchik allocated \$1.5 million dollars of Participatory Budgeting funding. Residents of the district ages 14 and up were allowed to vote for three of the five projects at voting locations throughout the district. These five projects included technology and visual upgrades at local schools, upgrades at Queens Village and Hollis Libraries, resurfacing the Vanderbilt Parkway, and a new gym floor for Martin Van Buren High School. The following are the winners, which will be funded in the upcoming city budget:

- . \$548, 000 worth of laptop carts and smart boards for PS 33Q, PS 178Q. IS 109Q, Queens High School of Teaching, Business Technology Early College High School, PS 224Q at PS205Q, and PS /IS 266Q.
- . \$375,000 worth of new AV and auxiliary items for PS18Q, PS26Q, PS33Q, PS186Q, and IS109Q.
- . Queens Village and Hollis Libraries will receive \$550,00 for facility upgrades, technology installations, and new library materials.

We gratefully thank our Councilman Grodenchik and his staff for making PB a reality. We also thank our members and Queens Villagers who came out to vote for the projects that will enhance our quality of life.

**SPRING CLEANUP**

Spring is visiting us more every day. We are asking Queens Villagers to maintain their homes and properties in compliance with City Sanitation and Building Codes .That means cleaning up to 18 inches from your curb, disposing of your garbage and recyclables properly, keeping lids on your garbage cans (especially on windy days), getting rid of unlicensed cars and decaying material on your property, keeping your lawn neatly cut. And remember that you are risking a summons if you put out your garbage before 5:00 P. M. on the day before the scheduled pickup. Your compliance with our sanitation and building codes will help to keep Queens Village clean and beautiful and you free of summonses.




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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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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 \$10.00 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.

PLEASE PRINT

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## **OUR MEMBERSHIP**

Our newest members are John Aris (223d Street), Blanca Vazquez (218 Place), and Jacqueline Williams (109<sup>th</sup> Avenue). Welcome aboard. You can join the Queens Village Civic Association at our monthly meetings or by using the membership application form in this newsletter. Dues are \$10.00 a year per person. As a member, you will receive our newsletter and have 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 that help to maintain and improve our quality of life.

## **OUR LADY OF LOURDES FAMILY DANCE**

Our Lady of Lourdes Church, located at 92-96 220<sup>th</sup> Street in Queens Village, will hold its Family Life Annual Dinner Dance on Saturday, May 21, from 6:00 P. M. to 10:00 P. M., in the church's Stewart Hall. Tickets for a family of 4 cost \$25.00. Extra tickets can be purchased for \$3.00 per person. There will be catered food, live DJ, and raffles. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Tickets can be bought at the end of masses on weekends or by calling 646-261-1452 or 516-697-1541. Come out to celebrate family life.

## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE**

If you are 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.

## **CONSUMER'S HOME IMPROVEMENTS GUIDE**

Before you sign a contract for improvements to your home, call the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs at 212-487-4110 to find out if the contractor is licensed or has complaints about completed work. Also, you can request a consumer's guide to home improvements that helps you to avoid the common difficulties that consumers encounter with contractors and informs you of the legal vehicle you have to resolve complaints. In cases where voluntary resolution cannot be accomplished, your complaint will be heard by a hearing officer. If you win your case, the contractor must comply with the decision.

## **FINALLY, WE GET ANOTHER NYPD PRECINCT FOR OUR AREA**

Our civic association and Community Board 13Q, along with many other civic and community organizations in Southeast Queens, have been clamoring for 40 years for the 105<sup>th</sup> Precinct to be split up as it has to patrol too great of a geographic area. This will now become a reality as a new precinct, the 116<sup>th</sup> Precinct, will cover the communities of Laurelton, Rosedale, Springfield Gardens, and Brookville, which are now patrolled by the 105<sup>th</sup> Precinct. The coming City budget will include the 70 million dollars in capital cash to fund the precinct. The City hasn't announced a time line for construction and still has to find a site for the new station house.

Mayor De Blasio said: "Our investment in the new 116<sup>th</sup> Precinct will address community needs, help reduce response time, and bring an additional presence to the fast growing neighborhoods of Southeast Queens."

## **MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES**

American Legion Post 301 and its auxiliary will conduct Memorial Day services on Monday, May 30, at 11:00 A. M., in Queens Village Veterans Plaza, located at Jamaica Avenue and Springfield Boulevard. Our fallen and living war veterans will be honored. We must never forget them and the sacrifices they made for us, many of them giving their lives to preserve our freedom and our way of life. Your civic will be placing a commemorate wreath at the Veterans Monument there. After the service, refreshments will be served at the legion's headquarters in the Creedmoor South Campus on Winchester Boulevard, Building 73.

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

The 105<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council meets on Wednesday, May 25, at 800 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, May 23, at 7:30 P. M. The place will be selected later this month. You can obtain the address of the site by calling the board at 718-464-9700. You can address the board with suggestions and complaints



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