



BROAD CHANNEL CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the Broad Channel Civic Association
February 2019

Vol. 32 No. 2

CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

***** VFW Hall – Shad Creek Road – 7:00 PM *****

*****February 28, 2019*****

This issue of the Newsletter is sponsored by
Jim & Tracey Harper.

President's Message

The February Civic meeting will be held on Thursday, February 28th at 7PM at the VFW Hall.

The Civic Association is in the process of creating a town email notification list for matters of interest, such as the monthly newsletter, or of concern (i.e.: crime events). We have put out a notice to date on the Broad Channel Civic Facebook site and have had great response. If anyone is interested in being added to the list, submit an email to broadchannelcivic@gmail.com or send your email to the Facebook site (Broad Channel Civic) and we will add you to the list.

I want to thank Councilman Eric Ulrich for his very generous offer to allocate 1.5 million dollars to the American Ball Field Park in Broad Channel. We will be using the funds to remove the blacktop area of that park that is currently not used. This was created back when there was a move by the CYO to hold Girls Softball games on blacktop but that did not pan out (due to injuries) and for years it has been a large unused area. We hope to get additional funding and not only remove the blacktop but create a brand-new baseball field there which will help out with the great demand that is currently seen for baseball field space among the various local teams.

There will be a special election held on Tuesday, February 26th and the Civic would ask that residents please get out and vote. Our ability to get things done is directly related to the voting population of this town. While we may be small in numbers compared to some of our neighboring communities, we have always turned out to vote in greater numbers and this is extremely helpful to the Civics efforts to get this town its fair share of resources. Often I am asked by residents how they can help our efforts and this is one big way. On Tuesday, February 26th, please get out and vote.

The Civic was notified that on Sunday, February 3rd there was an arrest made in Broad Channel by the 100 precinct of young men who were caught breaking into cars and stealing items and cash. Great work on the part of the local police officers. Residents are reminded to always lock their car doors as this pattern is wide spread.

We are happy to report good news from DOT Commissioner Nicole Garcia. DOT had originally taken the position that the funding that will be left over in the Phase 2 street raising (due to the fact that West 18th and West 19th Roads did not vote to go forward) would not stay in town, but now has agreed that it could be used to address additional street raising in areas such as East 6th Road. The support of Senator Addabbo and Assemblywoman Amato along with Borough President Melinda Katz was critical to the DOT change in position.

The Hockey Rink at 17th Road is completed, in terms of all paving, and parks department expects to put down the sports coating and lines in April. This will be a great addition to the Park and allow the children to practice hockey on a designed rink in a protected area. This was funded by Councilman Ulrich's Participatory Budget funds.

Our Traffic Safety Committee, led by Marty Feeney, has been meeting with Captain Ganley from the 100th Pct. to look at any and all ways to improve safety on Crossbay Boulevard. There have been two recent hit and run incidents involving school children and many of the cars that travel through our town are doing so at excessive speeds and at times running red lights. We will be pursuing all options to get more enforcement for violators and residents can expect to see an increase in presence of enforcement officers in town and on the approach ways, including the Bridge.

Good news on the Environmental front as a Bill sponsored by Senator Addabbo has passed the Assembly and Senate that would protect Menhadden (bunker) fish from the massive vacuum ships that invade our waters from Virginia and wipe out entire schools. The Menhadden are the single most important fish in the sea and their recent large presence is the reason why we have seen the return of seals, dolphins and whales to this area. We need the Governor to sign this bill and make it law!

Quote of the Month – *“There are two great days in a person's life - the day we are born and the day we discover why.”*
----William Barclay

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Mundy Jr.



**The Flag flies in March for
George W. Nicollet,
U.S. Army, WWII.**

CHRIST PREBYTERIAN CHURCH BY THE SEA

Thank you to everyone for coming out on Sunday February 10th to the "Kids Puttin' On The Hits" and thanking everyone for their support of Christ Presbyterian Church. The Congregation is very appreciative of all the community support we have received.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

American Legion Auxiliary Upcoming Brunches:
Sunday, March 10th, 10AM – 15th Annual Jane Fuller Brunch for Cancer Care.

Sunday, April 14th, 10AM - Palm Sunday Brunch.

Sunday, May 19th, 10AM - Brunch.

Come down and enjoy a delicious breakfast with Family and Friends while helping to support our Veterans Programs. Hope to see you there!

ST. VIRGILIUS / ST. CAMILLUS

St. Camillus - St. Virgilius

ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DANCE: Sunday, March 3rd, 2019 – 3PM to 7PM. Music provided by the CUNNINGHAM BROTHERS BAND.

Sit—down corned beef dinner catered by Ludwig's.

Beer, Soda and Set-ups included. Please purchase

tickets by February 25th. Adults (13 yrs. old &

Older) - \$45.00. Children (6 to 12 yrs. Old) -

\$20.00. Infants (5 yrs. Old & Under) – FREE.

Tickets / reservations can be made at the

RECTORY or by calling 718-634-8229.

ASH WEDNESDAY (March 6th) - St. Virgilius

Church: 8AM Mass; 12 Noon Service & 7PM

Service. St. Camillus Church: 9AM Mass; 12

Noon Mass; 3:30PM Service; 5PM Service &

7PM Service.

ST. VIRGILIUS GOLDEN AGE meets every Thursday at 12:30PM in the American Legion Hall.

Dues for 2019

I  BROAD CHANNEL

New or Renewal Membership
\$5 Dues per Household per Year

Name:

Address:

Bring dues to Civic Association meetings or mail or drop off to:

Tracey Harper, 11 West 16th Road. Please make all checks out to BCCA. If you have any questions please contact Tracey at 718-536-0947.



The **Civic Association** is in need of sponsors for future newsletters to help cover operating expenses. If you wish to sponsor a newsletter, the cost is \$25. You can drop off or mail your check to Tracey Harper at 11 West 16th Road. Please make all checks payable to BCCA. Thank you.

GLIMPSE OF THE PAST

The following is an editorial, probably from the Long Island Press, regarding the City's threat in 1944 not to renew leases in Broad Channel.

.....
Broad Channel

"Underhanded...crooked...dishonest!"

A fighting priest used these fighting words to describe the city's dealings with 1,200 householders of Broad Channel who own their homes but not the land on which they stand.

Anyone familiar with the history of Broad Channel will agree that Father Helfenstein's characterization is not exaggerated. The city has refused to act forthrightly with the people of the community.

It has made promises, given assurances, aroused hopes.

Yesterday afternoon the Board of Estimate killed a proposal to evict the Broad Channel residents by 1948.

The action lifted a threat that has been hanging over the community for some days, a threat that should not have been made in these war-tense days when nerves are thin and worries high.

Certainly city officials did not act in good faith in renewing leases several years ago –after a similar threat of eviction –if they knew then that when the leases expired they would again demand return of the land.

They are tampering with the lives of hundreds of persons whose sons, brothers and sisters are fighting for the preservation not only of their homes but those of all people throughout the world.

Parks Commissioner Moses, also a member of the City Planning Commission, has summed the situation up in a letter to Borough President Burke this week. He wrote:

"It may be said that the reference by the city real estate director to the Idlewild Airport is pretty thin. Neither CrossBay Boulevard nor the development at Broad Channel present any threats to Idlewild. If this were so, the railroad would constitute an ever greater threat.

"My opinion continues to be that the city should sell to the owners of the houses at Broad Channel the land on which the houses stand - that the present streets should be accepted by the City Planning Commission, and that vitally needed sewer and other improvements should be made in the usual way. The burden of these improvements, on the local residents, can be reduced either by applying the proceeds of the sale of the land to these purposes, or by taking them into consideration in fixing the price of the land."...

**Broad Channel Civic Association
Broad Channel, NY 11693**

- President ----- Dan Mundy Jr.
Vice President ----- James Harper
Treasurer ----- Tracey Harper
Recording Secretary ----- Kathleen Lawless
Corresponding Secretary ---- Kat Lawless
Sergeant at Arms ----- Leo Chevanne
Trustees ----- Dan Mundy Sr.,
John McCambridge Jr., Dan McIntyre
Editor in Chief ----- Natalie Grant
najomawi@gmail.com

Material for the next newsletter is due by Mach 10th.