



BROAD CHANNEL CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the Broad Channel Civic Association

June 2017

Vol. 30 No. 6

CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

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

***** June 22, 2017 *****

**This issue of the Newsletter is sponsored by
An Anonymous Donor.**

President's Message

This month's Civic **meeting will be held on Thursday, June 22nd at 7PM** at the VFW Hall. Come down and get caught up on what is going on in your neighborhood!

Cashless tolls -- The Civic previously reported our concerns that this new system presented for our town in particular -

- One is the inability at times to make a left turn onto Demerest Road as oncoming traffic coming out of the tolls no longer has to slow down, which often in the past offered the opportunity for drivers to make the left turn onto Demerest Road from Crossbay Blvd. We believe this will be made even much worse as afternoon summer crowds exit the Rockaway's.
- The second concern is that it appears that cars are now coming off of the bridge at much higher speeds and then increasing their speed even more as they attempt to catch the green light at 20th Road.

As a result the Civic Association met on site with Community Board District manager Jonathan Gaska and representatives from DOT on May 31st to discuss. At the conclusion, the Civic and community board requested that a traffic light be added to this location to address these concerns. DOT indicated that they would take that request back to the commissioner. Both the Civic and community board submitted follow up requests that the study, which is required, be undertaken immediately and corrective action be taken.

NY State Troopers will be present at the Civic meeting to give a presentation of why they are a visible force suddenly in our community and to take questions. The Civic had reached out to Assemblywoman Amato to request that they attend our meeting after numerous questions had arisen at past meetings. We look forward to engaging them and hopefully establishing a line of communication going forward that does not currently exist.

Street Raising Project - updates will be given on when work will resume on West 13th Road, street bed work, and when restoration work will begin on West 11th and West 12th Roads. This will be based on what is resolved at a task force meeting at Borough President Melinda Katz office on June 20th. In addition, Phase 2 of the street raising, which is the proposed work on West 14th through West 19th Roads will be discussed at the taskforce meeting and an update also given at Civic meeting.

Build it Back update will be given at the Civic meeting by Lou Mendes and follow up questions will be taken by Rudy Giuliani. The Civic has been pushing timeframes, work quality, accurate design issues, and street access along with numerous individual issues with the program administrators. This will be the last Civic meeting before September to discuss the program problems as we will not be meeting in July and August.

Cell Tower issue - The cell tower issue has been on again / off again for a number of years. The proposed tower, originally on the corner of East 9th Road, was met with great resistance and a cell tower committee was created with the expressed purpose of stopping any cell tower installation in Broad Channel out of health concerns. That committee was very successful and the proposed tower was not built. Last year Verizon reached out to the Civic about the possibility of gaining town approval to install a cell tower/antennae at an undisclosed area. After a number of Civic discussions and one presentation a motion was passed to take a vote on whether to reject the idea or to pursue the possibility of speaking with Verizon about approving, based on location and benefit etc. We will take a vote at this Civic meeting so if you have an opinion show up to vote on how you feel.

This is the last Civic newsletter until September and as always a BIG THANK YOU TO NATALIE GRANT, our editor for the tremendous work that she does in producing this Newsletter every month. In addition the Civic hopes that everyone will have a happy and enjoyable summer!

Quote of the Month -- "Summer is a promissory note signed in June, its long days spent and gone before you know it, and due to be repaid next January." ----Hal Borden

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Mundy Jr.

The **Civic Association** would like to express our thanks for the generous check of \$420 from an anonymous donor, which was given in appreciation for the Civics' hard work and to ensure funds are available to continue the publication of the newsletter.

ST. VIRGILIUS / ST. CAMILLUS:

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM: Classes will begin in September; but registration is ongoing. Please visit our website at www.stcstv.com or call the Rectory Office at 718-634-8229. Classes will be offered in St. Camillus Academy while we rebuild the building at St. Virgilius. Classes for Grades 1-8 are held on Wednesday afternoons from 3:30 pm to 5 pm. Special classes will be held for High School aged students & Older. Please call for more information. There is NO registration Fee for our Religious Education Program. Every catholic child - beginning in the FIRST GRADE - is encouraged to register.

THRILLA in CAMILLA: Friday, July 7, 2017 FDNY BOXING returns to St. Camillus Parking Lot. Gates open at 6 pm and the first match begins at 7 pm. Admission is \$50 (ring side) and \$25 (general admission). Children are free when accompanied by adults. Proceeds go to building homes for veterans. Go to the website: www.fdneyboxing.com for tickets and information.

MEMORIAL MASS FOR Patrick Brosnahan will be Saturday, July 15th at 11 a.m. in St. Virgilius Church.

FAREWELL: St. Virgilius Convent: Sisters Ann, Rosemary & Marie Josee will be leaving St. Virgilius Convent for a new home. It has been a delight to have the Daughters of Wisdom reside in our convent and they have made themselves part of the Broad Channel community and parish.

St. Camillus Convent: Sisters Joan, Lorraine & Agnes will be leaving St. Camillus Convent for a new home. The Sisters of St. Joseph (Brentwood) have been an important part of St. Camillus parish and the Rockaway peninsula for 75 years. The community began teaching religious education to the children of St. Camillus while they lived in St. Malachy's Convent (Beach 112 Street). They staffed St. Camillus School and worked in the parish as Pastoral Associates and Directors of Religious Education. The parish and community has been blessed by the presence of these Religious women and they will be missed. We wish them well in their new homes.

At the present time, the parish is exploring plans for the convent buildings.

*Material to be printed in the next Newsletter is due by
September 10th*

BROAD CHANNEL HISTORICAL COMMITTEE
GOT PICTURES OF YOUR HOME?

With all the construction going on, the Historical Committee is interested in preserving "before and after" pictures of your home. Please identify address.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

The Beautification Committee would like to thank all who participated in the Photo Contest. We received many entries showing our town's beauty and uniqueness. Winners will be announced at the Mardi Gras parade.

And a quick word about the tree pits. They need a little care, so if you could water them every now and then and be careful when parking your cars on the boulevard so you don't bump into the box, it will truly be appreciated.

Enjoy your summer.



**The Flag will fly in July for
John (Jack) Kronenberger,
US Navy, WWII**



**The Flag will fly in August for
Richard Ford,
US Army, WWII**



**The Flag will fly in September for
Frank Hurst,
US Navy, WWII**

BROAD CHANNEL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

As of this week, the BCVFD Fund Drive is still very low as compared to previous years. Please send in your donations via mail or drop in the mailbox at the firehouse. We can now also accept donations electronically through PAYPAL.

June 14th, 2017 marks the 100th Anniversary of the Line of Duty Death of BCVFD Chief Christian Hoobs. He was in his 5th term as Chief of Department when he collapsed of a heart attack while running to a boat house fire at the trestle. The BCVFD will be honoring his sacrifice with a Memorial Service on Sat, June 17th at 10:30am at his gravesite in the Mount Hebron section, Lot 118 of the Cemetery of the Evergreens on Bushwick Ave in Brooklyn. All are welcome to attend.

Also June 6th, 2017 marked Chief Engineer Ed Wilmarth Jr's (known to most as Chappy or The Old Man) 50th consecutive Year of Active Service to the BCVFD, the first member to reach this monumental goal. The BCVFD will be celebrating this event with a dinner dance on Aug 5th, 2017 from 8pm-12 at the Rockaway Knights of Columbus. Tickets are \$50ea and include all food and drinks. Tickets must be purchased in advance on Eventbrite.com. Just enter BCVFD into the search bar and the event page will pop right up.

We hope to see you all for these two momentous occasions in Broad Channel history.