



BROAD CHANNEL CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the Broad Channel Civic Association
March 2019

Vol. 32 No. 3

CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

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

*****March 28, 2019*****

This issue of the Newsletter is sponsored by
Donna & Bob Badamo.

President's Message

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

The Yard Enhancement Project- which is the program that the Civic Association created with the NYC Build-It-Back Program to address those properties that were “Buyouts” is moving forward. The HPD representative who is in charge of this effort will be at the Civic meeting to give an update on progress to date and timelines going forward for both the properties already put out for bid as well as those few (about five) that were not initially included in the offering due to delays with state paper work but which are now moving forward.

Sunset Cove Park is under heavy construction and should be completed by June 30th. Starting at the end of April there will be a large planting effort going on at the site by NYC Parks who is managing the construction. **There will be a separate community planting effort to plant the wetland plants**, which is the Spartina plant, that will grow to become wetlands in that area. The Jamaica Bay Ecowatcher's will be partnering with the American Littoral Society (ALS) to work with volunteers starting June 1st to accomplish the task of planting over 70,000 plugs. We will be putting out requests for volunteers on the Broad Channel Civic Facebook site as well as the Jamaica Bay Ecowatcher's website. It is a fun day and a great way to give back to the environment. Hope to see many of you out there if possible.

I want to thank all who turned out for the special election for public advocate. Broad Channel had a 25% turnout of registered voters. This far exceeds the City average and, I believe, every other neighborhood in this area. It is very helpful to our efforts to get the resources and attention for the town needs to be able to point to this type of voter turnout. So thank you to all those who took time out of their day to vote!

The Civic Association is supporting the Parent's Association of **PS-47** as they engage the DOE to discuss the needs of the school and the potential **for a possible new school.** The school is in need of many major overhauls and we are hoping to fully explore the possibility of a brand-new school in the future for our children. We will be given reports monthly at the Civic meeting of progress made on this issue.

Street Raising continues to be on schedule with the reconstruction milestones (both sewer and storm drain finished by end of March) for West 13th Road and the private property restoration work on West 11th and West 12th Roads is slated to resume on March 26th at this time. On the phase 2, West 14th through West 17th Roads, the bid was initially going to go out in March but that has been moved back approximately 3 months due to final design details that had to be added to the construction documents. DOT and DDC have a design team looking at East 6th Road to understand the engineering and funding needed to move forward on that block as they have agreed to keep the funding that would have been spent on West 18th and West 19th Roads (those blocks that rejected the street raising project) for other street raising projects in town.

Reconstruction of 17th Road Park has received approval at the Comptroller's office which will allow this funding for \$2,260,000 to be moved to NYC Parks and for the project to move forward. This funding, one million dollars from Councilman Ulrich and one million dollars from Borough president Melinda Katz, will allow for a major over haul of the Park which is in need of new pavers, bench seats, water fountains, etc. as many of these items are falling apart.

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.

Quote of the Month-- “I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis. The great point is to bring them the real facts.” --Abraham Lincoln

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Mundy Jr.



**The Flag will fly in April for
William T. O'Keefe,
U.S. Navy, WWII.**

CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BY THE SEA

Christ Presbyterian Church will be having their annual Breakfast with the Easter Bunny on Sat. April 13th from 10AM to 2PM. All are welcome. You don't need a child to come and have breakfast with us, it a nice enjoyable time for all. Tickets for the \$10,000 drawing are on sale contact Donny Minor, Joyce Adamiszyn or Monique Henglien if you would like to purchase any. Drawing will be on Sat. May 18th at 4PM at the Church hall please come and join us.

ST. VIRGILIUS / ST. CAMILLUS

RECONCILIATION MONDAY: The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be offered throughout the day on Monday, April 15th in ALL the parishes in the Dioceses of New York, Brooklyn and Rockville Centre. At St. Virgilius Church, there will be a COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE at 7PM.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday (April 14)

St. Virgilius: Saturday at 4PM & Sunday at 10AM
St. Camillus: Saturday at 5:30PM & Sunday at 8:30AM & 11:30AM.

Holy Thursday (April 18)

No Morning Masses. Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:30PM at St. Camillus Church. The Church will remain open to 10PM for private prayer.

Good Friday (April 19)

St. Virgilius Church: Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 12 Noon & Stations of the Cross at 7PM.
St. Camillus Church: Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3PM & Stations of the Cross at 7PM.

HOLY SATURDAY (April 20)

No Morning or Evening (Vigil) Masses. EASTER VIGIL: 8PM at St. Camillus Church.

EASTER SUNDAY (April 21)

St. Virgilius Church: 10AM & 12 Noon
St. Camillus Church: 8:30AM & 11:30AM

BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD: On Holy Saturday (April 20) we will bless food after Morning Prayer at 9AM and again at 12 Noon in St. Camillus Church.

EAST COAST PRO WRESTLING: ECPW returns to St. Camillus Springman Hall on Saturday, April 27th at 7:30PM. Tickets are \$15.00 in advance and can be purchased from Jimmy Smallman (917-929-7326) or at St. Camillus Rectory. Tickets will be \$20 at the door. For more information, please call 973-402-9599 or visit the website at www.ECPW1.com.



HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Has anyone borrowed the Weiss binder from the library? If so, please return at your earliest convenience. Check out our website broadchannelhistoricalsociety.org for a short video of Hurricane Donna in Broad Channel taken by William H. Hemminger.

GLIMPSE OF THE PAST

Speech given by Michael Forbes at the blessing and dedication of St. Virgilius Church, 192_?. The speech was sent by former resident Adele Forbes Weitzman.

Right Reverend Bishop, Beloved Pastor, Reverend Fathers and Honored Guests:

I thank you for the privilege afforded me to address so distinguished an assembly on a subject so dear to my heart, namely, the erection on this island of a church wherein Roman Catholics could hear Mass and have the Sacraments administered to them.

In my earlier days on this island I found that it was next to impossible for a Catholic to hear Mass, except at a sacrifice of time and trouble and that, therefore, many did not do so. I made a canvas of the island and found that 150 Catholic men and women did not go to Mass during the summer months, owing to the transportation furnished by the Long Island Railroad, as the only train that stopped at the Channel after 4:30 AM on Sunday morning was the 9:15, going to the beach and which arrived in Hammels at 9:20, too late for the 9 o'clock Mass; and as the next Mass was at 10:15 or 10:30 and a High Mass and was not over until 11:30 and the train which stopped at the Channel left Hammels at 11:23, you were forced to wait for the next to stop, which was the 1:13 and so all the morning was gone. This was the excuse the people gave me when asked why they did not attend Mass. I asked them that if Mass were celebrated at the Channel whether they would attend and they promised to do so. I then laid the matter before the late Father Murray, who could not see the necessity of it; but at last I won his consent on promising to be responsible for the church properties loaned for the occasion, he to send the priest.

On Sunday morning I went up to the station to meet the priest, after arranging everything in order, and when I returned, I was surprised to find over 200 people outside, who could not get into the house wherein Mass was to be celebrated and it being the largest house then on the island.

Father Murray was surprised at the offering and came himself on the following Sunday morning to be convinced. I then called a meeting of three of the most prominent Catholics on the island and we subscribed enough money to lease from the Dock Department the ground and erected a small chapel, but had not enough for doors or seats. So I borrowed chairs on Saturday night and returned them on Sunday after Mass. Eventually, I got the doors and an altar.

.....to be continued

**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 April 10th.