

Rocky Hill Civic Association Bulletin

..... proudly serving the community for more than 80 years

Practice "Random Acts of Kindness". It will make this a better community

Website: rockyhillcivicasociation.com

April 2009 Bulletin

Rocky Hill Civic Association(RHCA)

Email, phone or send updates, suggestions and questions to:
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Bellerose Manor, N.Y.
11427-2646

Phone: (718) 465-3608
Email: rhca@nyc.rr.com

Please mail dues to:

RHCA attn: Marie deAngelis
80-35 236th St.
Bellerose Manor, N.Y.
11427-2123

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NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS BEING HELD ON THE FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

Tuesday APRIL 7th at 7:30 P.M.

Location: P.S. 18 on 235th Court

(Between Hillside Ave. and 88th Ave.)

**1st SPEAKER: Elsie Gilbert
Partnership Specialist, U.S. Census Bureau**

TOPIC: 2010 U.S. CENSUS

**2nd SPEAKER: Brittany McCrary
Community Outreach Coordinator,
National Children's Study**

TOPIC: National Children's Study comes to our Area

1st Speaker: This talk will serve as an introduction to the 2010 Census and how it affect such things as: distribution of Federal and State funds, how the 435 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives will be reapportioned, and how numerous services will be provided by government agencies. It can significantly impact our area. There will even be **Job Opportunities** created. Come and learn. Materials will be distributed.

2nd Speaker: This talk will provide details of a National Study being conducted to learn how the environment affects children's health. Part of the study is occurring in our area. Participating women and their future children will receive a community resource network, free events and newsletters, free child growth report card, and payment for completed visits, \$25-100 per visit.

2009 DUES DRIVE

If you have not already sent in your 2009 dues, please complete the dues form on page 3 and mail in your dues. If your Block Captain collects dues, please remember to thank him/her—going door to door collecting dues is time consuming and no one really likes to ask for money, no matter how good the cause. Some items your dues pay for are: rental fees for our meeting place, newsletters, mailings to Public Officials on your behalf, beautification programs and support of our Local Little League and other organizations. Dues are still only \$5, one of the best investments you can ever make.

President's Message:

This is one of the month's in which we need a bigger front page. It is the most read page by far. It would take me twice the space to tell everyone in our community how important the 2010 Census is to us. It will determine much in the way of funding and services for our community over the next ten years until the next census is done. The National Children's Study is the largest project to research children's health and development ever to be conducted in the United States. It will have a major impact on future generations. I am so pleased to have speakers on these two very important subjects. Please spread the word.

Next month we have managed to recruit speakers from the New York City Department of Preservation and Development. They will talk about ways to avoid foreclosure and improve your home value. Subjects, once again, that are of great importance to our community. Your civic association is working hard to bring you not only speakers who are interesting but also people who have information that is important to us, as city residents, homeowners and as people. Please spread the word and help us get more of our community involved.

New Advertiser:

This month there is a new Advertiser on the back page. The ad is entitled **Mr. Hammer**. He handles all kinds of home repair, roofing, kitchens, bathrooms, no job is too big or too small. As with all our advertisers, we ask you to patronize those who support us. We have never heard a complaint against any of our advertisers.

COMMUNITY NEWS:

A request to place more radio frequency towers on the Apartment building at 222-89 Braddock Ave. has been denied by Community Board 13Q. Although this is not binding, it does carry a lot of weight. We will continue to monitor this.

Condolences to the friends and family of Officer Matthew Tichler of the 105th Precinct. He died recently in a tragic accident at the young age of 23.

House Numbers must be displayed so they can be seen from the street, especially at night. This is for your benefit. In case of a police or medical emergency at your home, the responders must be able to identify your home. The faster they find your house, the sooner they can respond to your emergency. Minutes can make a difference. Check it yourself and see if YOU can see your house numbers from the street at night.

New York State Senator Frank Padavan is holding a drive to send our troops things they need and will appreciate. Needed items include: Sunblock (spf 50+), stationary and pens, batteries, snacks, shaving material, phone cards, body wash, deodorant, travel and standard size toiletries, advil, tylenol and allergy medicines. His staff will also be collecting unused cell phones, phone batteries and accessories for the Verizon Wireless Hopeline program. The Hopeline Program is a nationwide effort that collects these items and donates them to local domestic violence programs. The cell phones are refurbished and given to domestic violence victims as a means of safe communication. In recognition of **Earth Day** the Hopeline Drive will begin in Senator Padavan's district office starting on Wednesday April 22nd and will conclude on Thursday April 30th. All items should be dropped off at the Senator's office on Gettysburg Street (near Braddock Ave.) or bring the items to our meeting. The Senator's phone number is 718-343-0255, the email address is frankpadavan.com

2nd ANNUAL EGG HUNT PRESENTED BY THE ICL MILESTONE RESIDENCE

Date and Time: Saturday, April 11th, from 12 pm to 3 pm
Place: 80-45 Winchester Blvd, Building 4W
Featuring: Games and Prizes Face Painting Free Food and Refreshments
Professional DJ and Music by the Mixed Nuts Dance Contest
For Information: call Pat at 718-468-4700 Ext. 8114

We apologize for leaving the Marcheses of Seward Ave. off our list of dues payers for 2008.

ROCKY HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION OFFICER AND BOARD ELECTIONS

Please read the enclosed flier on the elections that will be held May 13th. All nominations will be finalized at our April 7th membership meeting.

Reforming Education

An Educational Forum was held on March 8th and was sponsored by Assemblyman Mark Weprin. Our other local state elected official Senator Frank Padavan also spoke.

Legislation that governs our educational process is set to expire this coming June so a new law is being written. Some of the intent of the new legislation will be to clearly define the duties, responsibilities, and obligations of School Board Superintendants and others. Under the old legislation, localities were supposed to maintain power and control but this intent of the law was not honored by the Mayor. Assemblyman Weprin has 5 thoughtful proposals that are summarized below:

- Keep Mayoral Control but delineate the authority of the Mayor, Chancellor and Community Superintendents
- Restore the role of local School Districts. Local control was the original intent of the law. While the Superintendents should have authority, there should not be highly centralized bureaucratic control.
- Broad-based accountability for teachers and principals—the local superintendent should provide the protocol for accountability. Teachers and principals should not be judged solely on student's scores on standardized tests.
- Focus on Technology—technology allows schools to fully integrate the daily classroom with the school community, we should take full advantage of it.
- Foster Parent Involvement—this can be done with expansion of the parent coordinator concept which has been successful. It can also be accomplished by creating smaller High Schools which allow for better outreach to parents.

These views may not contain all the answers. It is important that we support efforts by our concerned elected officials who are trying their best to fix the system. Please contact your elected official and make your views known.

Assemblyman Mark Weprin: Phone: 718-428-7900 Email: weprinm@assembly.state.ny.us

Senator Frank Padavan: Phone 718-343-0255

Mayor Michael Bloomberg: 311 or Fax: 212-312-0700 Web Site: nyc.gov

Learning more about our Government:

The League of Women Voters is sponsoring a two session workshop on Saturday May 2nd and May 9th. entitled **“How to Run for Public Office In New York City”**. Register online at <http://leagueandlearnnyc.org/mypage/index.html> or call Ashton Stewart, project coordinator at 347-527-1140.

Excellent educational material such as the 2009 edition of “They Represent You”—a forty page directory of elected officials with district maps and “What makes New York City Run” a 108 page guide to New York City Government can be ordered at the League's web site: www.lwvnyc.com

Rocky Hill Civic Association, Inc. -- Annual \$5.00 Dues Drive Receipt for 2008

Name..... Email.....

Address..... Phone.....

Please make your check Payable to: **Rocky Hill Civic Association** and mail it with this coupon to:
RHCA Attn: Marie deAngelis, 80-35 236th Street, Bellerose Manor, N.Y. 11427-2123

I am interested in becoming a RHCA Board or Committee Member or would like to volunteer for a Special project. Yes No We will contact you to discuss volunteer opportunities.

