

## *Devote time to support your neighborhood by keeping it safe*

Barbara  
Morris

### *Neighbor to Neighbor*

Citizens Committee for New York City held the 2009 Neighborhood Awards reception at the Municipal Arts Society June 8. The founder of CCNYC, Osborn Elliott, was born in 1924. Throughout his life, he had a vision that cities could be revitalized block by block if citizens were willing to "put their shoulders to the wheel," so to speak. Since Elliott died in 2008, to honor his memory this year the Osborn Elliott Building Block Awards were presented to three active groups from Queens: the Rockaway Waterfront Alliance, Culinary Kids Day Camp and Queens Coalition for Parks and Greenspaces.

There were also three groups from Brooklyn, two from the Bronx and one each from Manhattan and Staten Island. Space limitations prevented enumerating all the winners from the other boroughs, because there are more Queens events to tell you about.

Nevertheless, all winners are congratulated and CCNYC thanked on their behalf. Great job all.

Regarding Elliott's vision, do not believe individuals cannot make a difference. One man from our 105th Precinct noticed an unusual car carrying three men in his neighborhood.

Two of them rang the bell at one home. When no one answered, they got back in the car, rode around, pulled up hoods on their sweatshirts and put on gloves. At this point, Jerry Wind called 911. The police responded from many directions and found these men were criminals, made the arrests and recovered stolen property that was stashed in the car.

Another incident saw Bryan and Andrew Klorman from another precinct on their way to look at fishing equipment when they saw a stranger on a bicycle riding around, looking up driveways. They stopped and called the police, who checked him out quickly and found he was visiting from out of town. The police were grateful nevertheless, since it is better to have a tip than try to deal with something after the fact.

With that in mind, let me remind you fireworks are illegal in the city and state. You cannot transport, buy, store, sell or possess fireworks without risk of arrest, imprisonment, fine or property confiscation. If you must see fireworks in person, go to a beach or somewhere where professionals can be responsible for the risks. Remember, if you injure someone or damage property, you can and probably will be sued along with experiencing the arrest we were telling you about.

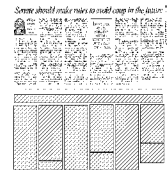
This year, the NYPD's Patrol Borough Queens South Command will hold its annual Harmony Picnic July 22 at 10 a.m. at Cunningham Park. All ages are

welcome, but youngsters must be accompanied by a responsible adult and should—wear something that will be easily identifiable. Picnics can be lots of fun, except if you get lost or hurt. We want everyone to be as safe as possible and get to know and have fun with some of our police officers, who try hard to protect us.

This year, the 105th Precinct will hold its 2009 National Night Out Against Crime at Alley Pond Park at Union Turnpike and Winchester Boulevard from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Aug 4. We hope this year the folks in the southern part of the precinct will be as willing as the folks from the northern part were the last couple of years to travel to be together to have fun and find out what is happening in other parts of the precinct.

In fact, with the economy the way it is, instead of the trouble and expense of individual block parties, why not make the night out bigger and better than ever by your presence and possibly some kind of contribution, even though maybe not as much as required for a block party?

This year, we invite our southern businesses to participate with our usual northern donors to get favorable publicity by contributing something appropriate and hopefully have staff also attend, since we feel you are an important part of our community. The above holds true for precincts 103 and 113 as well. Precinct 103's night out will be at Rufus King Park,



honoring dead Police Officer Charles Davis, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. with a candle lighting at 9 p.m.

Precinct 113 will be at Baisley Pond Park, at 156-10 Baisley Blvd. between 155th and 157th streets, from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.