January 2011

Community Affairs Bureau

Community Newsletter
Borough of the Month: Brooklyn

Van Dyke Christmas Event

The NYPD Youth Services Section hosted a Holiday Party at the Van Dyke Community Center (392 Blake Ave) on December 20, 2010. The kids who attended the event were chosen from schools, community centers and after school centers within the confines of the 73 Precinct / P.S.A. 2.

This was the fourth consecutive year for this event. The Van Dyke Center is a terrific location for the Christmas Party because it brings together the schools, community centers, housing development and Youth Services police officers that work with children of the 73 Precinct Community.

At last years event, over 450 people attended and this year the number was met again. According to former Center Director Tyrone Lewis, this Holiday Party continues to be the largest event ever held at the center. The Police Officers decorated the facility with Holiday decorations, which were created and painted by the school students.

Community Programs

Precinct Community Councils

Forums that provide on-going, direct communication between the police and community.

Civilian Observer Ride Along

Provides the public with an opportunity to observe police officers on patrol.

Citizens Police Academy

Offers community members the opportunity to experience similar training to that of police recruits at the police academy.

NYPD Internship

Provides high school, college, and graduate students the opportunity to gain practical experience in the criminal justice field.

The NYPD would like to wish you a safe and happy new year. For tips on how to keep safe and alert, click here.

Van Dyke Christmas Event (cont'd)

The event kicked off at 4 pm and lasted until 8 pm. The following are some examples of attractions that were featured at the Christmas Party:

- Knock Hockey
- Baseball, Football Toss
- Face painting
- Double Dutch
- Musical Chairs
- Ping Pong
- Pin Hat on the Snowman
- Holiday Arts and Crafts
- Holiday Photo Stand In
- Santa Claus

Police Officers from Youth Services were assigned to each station and encouraged kids to participate at each station. Law Enforcement Explorers were used to form and hold lines to distribute toys that were donated by Toys for Tots.

Each child received one ticket that they exchanged for a toy. P.O. Vera from Crime Prevention set up Information tables. P.O. Lapommery capped off the night as he dressed as Santa Claus and took pictures with the kids.

Police Commissioner
Raymond W. Kelly

Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg appointed Raymond W. Kelly Police Commissioner of the City of New York, making Commissioner Kelly the first person to hold the post for a second, separate tenure. A combat veteran of the Vietnam War, Commissioner Kelly retired as a Colonel from the Marine Corps Reserves after 30 years of service.

Van Dyke Christmas Event (cont'd)

There was a variety of small finger food offered free of charge for the students. Police Officers were assigned to the cafeteria. Volunteer from schools and many parents collaborated with Youth Services to ensure the night was a complete success. Girl Scout Troup 2688 led by Ms. Sanders (Parent Coordinator P.S. 284) from East New York sang the National Anthem and Color Guard.

The students were full of excitement as they raced around the center. Many parents assisted children at the Holiday Arts and Crafts table were they made thermometer Snowman, picture wreaths and chilly penguins.

We were very happy with the turn out and also bringing joy to the lives of these wonderful children. We look forward to next year's Holiday party and hope you come join as well. We look forward to seeing you there.

For further information on the NYPD Community Affairs Bureau or programs listed, please visit http://www.nyc.gov/nypd and click on the ***Community Affairs*** link.

If you are interested in tips on crime prevention or safety tips for 2011, visit the NYPD website and click on ***Crime Prevention*** for information.

Sign up for Email Newsletters!

Every month, you will receive a newsletter keeping you informed of upcoming events, initiatives and community gatherings. Visit www.nyc.gov/nypd and click email alerts.

Again, its very important that you help your community grow and become safer by taking part in programs available at our website.

Together, we can make a huge difference.