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built on a solid foundation of public safety," Bloomberg commented. "As we invest in our city's future, we must also strengthen this foundation. Today, we're taking an important step towards that goal with the selection of a site for a new 21st Century Police Academy, which will train police officers to meet the challenges of tomorrow to protect our city in an ever-changing and complex world."

"The Police Department is not the agency it was a mere five years ago, never mind 43 years ago, when the current Police Academy was constructed," Kelly said. "Since that time we have expanded in both size and mission to include new counter-terrorism and intelligence programs, expanded community outreach and greater focus on quality of life. The new Police Academy will provide what our police officers and all New Yorkers deserve: the most advanced law enforcement training facility anywhere in the world."

"As our city continues to grow, so must our police force reflect the best possible training," Marshall said. "I thank Mayor Bloomberg for his foresight in building this new Police Academy in Queens. It is here that new officers will be trained and learn the latest technology in crime prevention and deployment of resources. At the same time, additional police personnel will be in the area to staff and

maintain this facility, heightening the visible presence of the police. I look forward to working with the mayor and Police Commissioner Ray Kelly as we address the issues related to making this major capital project a reality."

"The best police force in the world deserves the best training facilities," Vallone said. "Queens will be proud to say that every officer on the city's streets will have started their career right here. I would like to thank Mayor Bloomberg for accomplishing this goal."

"College Point will make a great home for a brand new Police Academy and I look forward to working with the administration to make sure that concerns about traffic will be addressed in the planning process," Avella said.

"The Queens Chamber of Commerce, that represents 1,700 businesses throughout Queens, welcomes the development of a brand new Police Academy in College Point," said Egan. "The businesses in the area will derive a lot of benefits from having the Academy there."

The site selection committee, made up of representatives from the Mayor's Office, Police Department, Department of Citywide Administrative Services, Office of Management and Budget, Economic Development Corporation and Office of the Criminal Justice Coordinator, was charged with identifying a viable site for the new Police Academy. The committee used four criteria: access by



Photo Dan Miller/DMD Images

As (l. to r.) Queens Borough President Helen Marshall, City Councilmember Peter Vallone Jr., Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Councilmember Tony Avella look on, Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly describes the need for a new, centralized Police Academy.

mass transportation and highways, community context, a parcel size of at least 30 acres and general feasibility. The 30-acre College Point location meets each criterion. "In addition to its size, the location has other advantages," Bloomberg said in his radio address. "It's centrally located for recruits living in the five boroughs as well as those living in the suburbs and

it's easily accessible by car and mass transit.

"It also happens that the city already owns this land—which saves us some money and allows us to move forward on the project more quickly. Developing a large complex like this can be challenging, but already we've begun reaching out to elected officials and community members—who are

very supportive of the project—to address any concerns they might have. If all goes smoothly, we hope to break ground for the new campus about two and a half years from now in the fall of 2009." Also, there are no homes in the immediate area of the site. The nearest residential development is separated from the site by a hill and the MTA College Point Bus Depot.

News Of The Neighborhoods

COMPILED BY LIZ GOFF

"Bad Eggs" Nesting At Local Stores

Local supermarkets are stocking shelves with "dangerous" Easter eggs, despite a nationwide ban of the goodies that has been in effect since 1997.

Officials pulled Italian-made "Kinder Surprise" Easter eggs off local shelves 10 years ago, fearful that toys hidden inside the hollow confections posed a choking hazard for young children.

A source at the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission said the eggs are still being sold in stores throughout the city, including at several Bravo Supermarkets, "mom and pop" shops and specialty shops in Queens.

Shops and supermarkets selling the eggs "import them, and might not know they're breaking the law", the sources said.

The eggs contain a warning for children under three years old, the sources said. But the warning is written in German.

A spokesperson for *Consumer Reports Magazine* said the eggs contain toys with "tiny parts that could easily choke young children".

Consumer Reports spokesperson Heather Thompson said shoppers are drawn to the eggs by the promise of a "surprise" in the middle. "The toy is the surprise," Thompson said.

Plan To "Flag" Uncollected Mail

Queens residents who live alone are being offered a way to alert letter carriers that they need help.

The city will hand out stickers or magnets reading "Carrier Alert" that can be attached inside the mailboxes of seniors and the disabled, said Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

The city will instruct letter carriers to call 311 or 911 if mail in the tagged boxes goes uncollected, Bloomberg said. In addition, the city Department For The Aging (DFTA) will teach building superintendents and doormen how to detect signs that tenants need help, Bloomberg said.

Bloomberg said the move is an effort to revitalize the "Carrier Alert" program established by the city in the 1970s. "Hopefully by pairing this new program with the 311 system, we can save lives," Bloomberg said.

City officials estimate that 35 per cent of New Yorkers over 65 live alone. DFTA officials are urging Queens residents to call 311 or 911 if they believe a senior or disabled neighbor is in need of help.

"If this, once in a while, saves someone, then it will be worth all the work and aggravation," Bloomberg said.

Applications for "Carrier Alert" stickers or magnets are also available online at www.nyc.gov/aging.

Bank Robbery Suspect Sought



This suspect is responsible for robberies of three banks in Forest Hills and two in Astoria since January of this year.

A black male six feet tall with a medium build and between 20 and 30 years old is responsible for five bank robberies since January, according to police. The suspect first struck a Chase Bank at 118-30 Queens Blvd., Forest Hills on January 8. Two weeks and four days later, on January 26, he robbed a Washington Mutual Bank at 106-11 71st Ave. and on February 26 robbed the North Fork Bank at 107-18 Continental Ave. All three robberies were within the confines of the 112th Police Precinct.

The suspect then moved operations to Astoria. On March 13, he robbed the Sovereign Bank at 37-10 Broadway and on March 26 the Queens County Savings Bank at 30-75 Steinway St., both locations within the 114th Precinct.

In each case, the suspect entered the bank, produced a note demanding money and fled the bank with United States currency in undisclosed amounts.

Anyone with information is requested to call New York City Police Department Detective Salvatore Abusio of the Major Case Squad, Special Investigations Division at 718-276-3470 or 646-610-6910.

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