April 28, 2010, CORAM - Councilwoman Connie Kepert was pleased to announce the long awaited completion of the beautification project of the triangle intersection at routes 112 and Middle Country Road in Coram. The Councilwoman was joined by the Coram Civic as well as the Kelly Brothers Landscaping and Design.

The project was initiated by the Coram Civic back in 2007 when they reached out to Kelly Brothers, a local landscaping and design business, and requested that they beautify the neglected intersection. As a local business with a stake in the community, the Kelly Brothers were enthusiastic about donating plant material and labor for the project. The project ran into several roadblocks to its completion, but the community along with Councilwoman Kepert's office remained steadfast in seeing the completion of the project.

Located in a state right-of-way, the New York State Department of Transportation (NYS DOT) required that the civic post a $100,000 bond for the project. The bond was beyond the means of the civic and that is when the civic reached out to the town for assistance. The town was then required to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the state which included the requirement of maintaining the location. This added a piece to the puzzle that with the help of the town's law department was resolved. "My appreciation for the completion of this project runs deep because it required a determination to navigate through multiple governmental agencies while having the will of the community behind us. This may seem like a simple planting, but it really symbolizes the collective efforts of folks who really care about the Coram community," stated Councilwoman Kepert.

Assemblyman Steven Englebright, who was supportive of the project all along added, "This beautification project exemplifies what can be accomplished when citizens put their civic pride into action. Hats off to the Coram Civic Association for their perseverence, to Kelly Brothers Landscaping for donating the landscape plantings, design and labor, and to the New York State Department of Transportation for their cooperation."

Erma Gluck, president of the Coram Civic said, "The Coram Civic Association is thrilled to finally see our beautification project at Rte. 112/25 (welcome to Coram sign) come to fruition. It was a long haul to navigate through the requirements of the Town Law Department. and the NYSDOT, but now everyone passing that intersection can enjoy the beauty of the project. A very big thank you to Bill Kelly of Kelly Brothers Landscaping for donating the landscaping, and to Councilwoman Kepert's office who kept us informed during the Town Law Dept. and NYSDOT process."

Bill Kelly of the Kelly Brothers Landscaping and Design was on hand to celebrate the completion of the project, "I'm happy to give back to the Coram Community where I anticipate great things happening in years to come."

"The significance of this project has multiple benefits for the community, visually it is an improvement and it also helps to create a sense of place for the community of Coram. But we need to do more. My office will continue to press the NYSDOT to improve the streetscape along Rt. 25, to make Coram's Main Street a safe and inviting place to be. We are also more than willing to put pressure on developers using both carrots and sticks to invest and improve their properties," concluded Councilwoman Kepert.