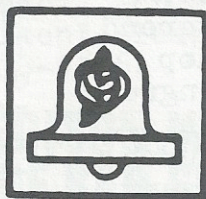


action news



bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.

VOLUME 3 NO. 4

APRIL

1976

SPRING DANCE

LAST CALL FOR TICKETS



Just a brief reminder to all of you to get your tickets now for the Spring Dance. In case the information given in detail in last month's Action News has been misplaced, a ticket to the dance will cost \$10 per person. This will include an individual cold buffet on each table, an OPEN BAR with UNLIMITED DRINKING between the hours of 9 p.m. until 1 a.m. and dancing will be to the music of John Wynn's Band.

We're hoping this year's dance will be every bit as successful as our last two have been so come on and get your tickets now! Remember the date, Saturday, May 1st - 9 p.m. The place - New Hyde Park Elk's Lodge #2107 on Lakeville Road. Call me Chris McGann - 343-3971 or Ginny Slaney - 343-2029 Tickets will be available at the April meeting.

Christina McGann

In An Emergency... Are You Prepared?

A member of your family suffers a heart attack. Perhaps, a member of your family has fallen down a flight of stairs. Hopefully, these events will not happen. But, they do. Would you know how to handle the situation? The best answer is to call the Queens Village-Hollis-Bellerose Volunteer Ambulance Corps at 464-2424.

Our April 1st meeting will feature Robert Lutzel and members of the Ambulance Corps' Drill Team. They will demonstrate what to do before the ambulance arrives in the event of a heart attack or injury or accident. The team will answer any questions you may have. The Ambulance Corps has need of people over the age of 21 to be attendants and drivers.

Volunteers must have an advanced First Aid card. The Corps will provide all other necessary training. Headquarters for the Ambulance Corps is located at 255-01 Braddock Avenue. Further information may be had by calling 776-6282. But do come to the meeting for first-hand information.

John Reh

NOTICE

THE NEXT MEETING THURSDAY

APRIL 1, 1976
at 8:30 PM

FEATURING ROBERT LUTZEL
Queens-Village-Hollis-
Bellerose Volunteer
Ambulance Corps
Drill Team
HOUSE OF HOPE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Corner of 248 ST. &
85th Avenue

Where Bellerose Worships

St. Thomas' Church of Bellerose Village came into being in 1927 when the Reverend Ernest Van R. Stires, one of the sons of the Right Reverend Ernest Milmore Stires, then Bishop of Long Island, organized the congregation as a Mission. Prior to this, the rector of St. Elizabeth's Church in Floral Park had been coming every Sunday to the Bellerose Woman's Club to conduct services. Plans were soon underway for the erection of a church building at Commonwealth Boulevard and Superior Road and the present structure was opened on Thanksgiving Day, 1928. Its Gothic exterior and Romanesque interior won it an award for its architecture.

After this, the church, together with the communities of Bellerose and Floral Park, began a period of growth. The new rectory was dedicated in January of 1937. In March of 1938 Saint Thomas' Mission, having become self-supporting in all respects, was incorporated as a parish and admitted into union with the Diocese as a full parish at the Diocesan Convention in May 1938. The Reverend John Williams, Jr. was the first Rector.

The first ten years saw service by a number of Rectors, then again on Thanksgiving Day a new Rector, the Reverend Jonathan G. Sherman held his first services in the church. It was during his rectorship that the first of the stained glass memorial windows was installed in the church. The workmanship in these windows is considered to be among the finest on Long Island. The last of the stained glass windows was dedicated in 1968.

In 1942 on Thanksgiving Day, a note held by the Bank of Floral Park was burned, marking the completion of the first stage of a Debt Reduction Campaign. This campaign culminated with the burning of the mortgage on St. Thomas' Day in 1944.

The present Rector, The Reverend Bayard C. Carmiencke, was installed on Thanksgiving Day 1968, forty years to the day of the opening of the present church building. Since becoming Rector, Father Carmiencke has added a Master of Education in Pastoral Counseling to

his existing degrees.

St. Thomas' has held its own in a rapidly changing period in the life of the church as a whole. The church school has held its student level steady by the devotion of many teachers. There has been a growing vibrant concern within the parish for evangelism for Christ. A twice weekly Nursery Program was established under the leadership of Mrs. Charles Lindberg in 1969, assisted by Mrs. Carmiencke and many mothers. The parish has seen many physical improvements to the beautiful church, such as new lighting fixtures made possible through the efforts of the Woman's Auxiliary. The parish has been actively involved with the Village of Bellerose Youth Program since its inception and also makes space available for Brownie and Girl Scout groups.

Vital renewal in the Church's music and worship has been aided by the devoted work of Mr. Herbert Arons, the parish's organist-choirmaster. The parish just recently elected its 4th Senior Warden in its history--Mrs. Joan Sperle of Bellerose Terrace, the first woman to serve in this capacity. She is one of the four women presently serving on the Vestry of the Parish which is the Lay Leadership of the parish.

1972 brought Marriage Encounter to the attention of the parish which has touched the lives of many couples and added to the spiritual life of the parish. Father Carmiencke and his wife, Susan, have served as Nationwide Coordinators of the Episcopal Expression of Marriage Encounter since November 1972, and as Vice Presidents since its incorporation in the fall of 1974. They are presently serving as the Secretary Couple at the National Board of Directors of the Episcopal Expression of Marriage Encounter.

The parish has steered a moderate approach to liturgical changes in the Episcopal Church. New families are discovering that their spiritual needs are being met each month in

(Continued on last page)

SECURITY

It is time for our annual bicycle registration. Bicycle registration is an invaluable aid in recovering and returning lost and/or stolen bicycles. We urge all bicycle owners, young and old to avail themselves of this valuable service. There is no fee for this service which will be held in P.S. 133 school yard, 249 Street and 35 Avnue on April 3. (April 10 - rain date)

Children should bring their bicycles and proof of purchase or a parent to identify the bicycle. Everyone in the community is invited. Volunteers would be appreciated to help fill out the registration cards at the bicycle registration. Won't you donate an hour of your time for your community?

Watch this column for information on the Auto Registration program. This new program started by the 105th Community Council will involve affixing a decal to the car identifying by code the legitimate driver of the car (by sex and age group) so that a quick spot-check will help cars on patrol to spot a possible stolen car.

George Wolf

AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION

During the month of April, free Spinal Examinations will be given to the readers

of the ACTION NEWS by Dr. J. Mega, to detect spinal curvatures, pressure points of pain, etc. For an appointment please call 343-9536.

CON EDISON, WE'RE NOT THE BAD GUYS

Diana M. Hinchcliff, Con Edison's Public Affairs Representative and Robert K. McClean, Branch Manager of District 5 which includes Bellerose gave the B.C.C.A one of its liveliest and most informative meeting last March 4.

In a slide and oral presentation, they explained the utility's efforts to respond to the needs of its customers. Practical suggestions on how to reduce the consumption of energy by the careful selection of appliances and by the intelligent use of both electricity and gas were made.

How to read the meter was demonstrated and the fifteen items which appear on the utility bill were explained. When the presentation was over, it was clear that utility costs are not coming down--unless less expensive fossil fuels are burned and something can be done about taxes.

An eye-opener was the realization that a substantial portion of the utility bill represents taxes which Con Edison collects and turns over to the proper authority. Approximately 24% of

the bill is Con Edison's taxes, to this is added a 6.1% municipal tax which does not appear separately on the bill and on top of this is the 8% sales tax which the consumer, in addition to being taxed on the energy used, is paying taxes on taxes.

Vocal members brought their personal experiences with Con Edison to the meeting, such as estimated bills, impatient meter readers who by-passed homes, the advisability and cost of remote meter-reading when residents are never at home and the like. All personal complaints were noted and each will be investigated and reported on by Con Edison.

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(Continued from page 2)
 the warm friendly atmosphere of a parish membership that spans a wide range of ages. Firmly established, St. Thomas celebrated its 45th Anniversary in 1973 with a dinner at the New Hyde Park Inn. The above information was supplied to us by Father Carmiencke and Miss Connie Brekke to whom we give our sincerest thanks. Sebastian & Betty Platania

WHERE BELLEROSE WORSHIPS SERIES CLOSES

With the publication of "Where Bellerose Worships: St. Thomas' Episcopal Church in this issue, this popular series draws to a close.

The overwhelming majority of the residents in the B.C.C.A. area are parishioners

of the five houses of worship featured in this series.

Communicants of churches in this area that were not included in this series are invited to call our two local historians, Sebastian and Betty Platania at 347-5914 and their houses of worship may appear in a future series of "Where Bellerose Worships."

The editor publicly thanks Sebastian Platania for "The Bellerose Story" which provided the background for the series and Betty Platania who researched and wrote most of the series.

FOUND

Near bus-stop at Little Neck Parkway and 86th Avenue - horn-rimmed glasses

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with a black elastic neck strap. Call 347-2318 to claim them.

JUNE WALKER NOTES

The June Walk this year will be held on Saturday, June 12th. The Band has been contracted and other preparations are underway so that one and all will have an enjoyable day. Children, start thinking about your costume or float for this Bicentennial year, and who knows, you may be a prize winner. More to come in the next issue.