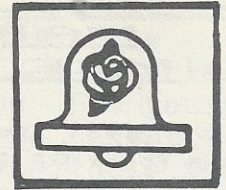


bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.



action news

VOLUME 10 NO. 4

APRIL

1984

PRESIDENT GAVEL

Our struggle over the location of a homeless shelter at Creedmore is clearly becoming one of the biggest local issues this year. I'd like to reiterate the issues involved to bring it all into focus with reality. We all bought our houses here while there was an existing state operated mental facility at Creedmore. There have been some problems over the years, but we all knew of the hospital's purpose and its needs and we lived with it without complaint. Several years ago the state reduced its commitment to Creedmore and other institutions to save money and released many clients to the streets. Subsequently, the court system decided that it was the city's responsibility to provide adequate housing for the homeless in cold weather. This decision called for prompt action; on the eve of Thanksgiving the Governor unilaterally directed the use of Creedmore and other facilities as shelters for homeless men. The plan was implemented over the immediate and strenuous objections of the local communities. Our problems are primarily that a facility we accepted as a relatively secure mental

hospital has suddenly been turned into a home for people who are certified mentally ill but now given no treatment or oversight.

The Governor's action places in jeopardy the safety of our quiet little neighborhood and it makes useless the beautiful Little League field directly across from the hospital. Our stores are affected and parents are afraid. We want action, we demand the security we always had. I strongly urge the following immediate actions and I request the community's support for whatever demonstrations we have. First, I suggest that the shelter be closed around April 1 concurrent with the beginning of Little League season and clients returned to the city. Secondly that clients wishing to return daily to the city be bused directly downtown and finally that whenever the shelter is open, a 24 hour police guard be established at the gate to return our peace of mind.

FISH'S FIRST LAW OF ANIMAL BEHAVIOR:

The probability of a cat eating its dinner has absolutely nothing to do with the price of the food placed before it.

PARKINSON'S SECOND LAW:

Expenditures rise to meet income.

STREET SURVEY

We will survey our streets some day soon to note potholes, poor street conditions, missing or defective manhole covers, clogged catch basins and other problems. The report will be sent, complete with photo's and other documentation, to responsible departments. Anyone aware of any specific problems or anyone who would like to volunteer to help in the survey should call Rich Hellenbrecht at 343-5397 with the exact problem and street address.

Notice

**THE NEXT MEETING
THURSDAY**

APRIL 5, 1984

AT 8:00 P.M.

SPEAKER

Dept. of Sanitation

**HOUSE OF HOPE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

**Corner of 248th St &
85th Avenue**

MARCH MEETING

At our last meeting, Mr. Fong from H&R Block spoke about important changes in the tax laws in effect. He was most convincing about the benefits of owning IRA's. This year the medical threshold is up and casualty claims must now exceed 10% of your income. Mr. Fong was very well informed and very helpful. Other issues covered at the meeting were: a street survey will be conducted in late March, results to be reported officially to the responsible authority, HIP home improvement loans will be available through Comm Board 13 at 7 1/2% up to \$15,000 for up to 10 years call the Board at 464-8700, we agreed to pay our \$25 dues to the Eastern Queens Civic Council, Adam's Real Estate sent cards to residents. This is an illegal practice and we were encouraged to send any such cards to Sen. Padavan's office for appropriate action.

HOME - LESS

Several meetings have recently been held on the homeless shelter. We attended a meeting in the Governor's city office at which we learned that the facility will be used after the summer exclusively to house homeless men who are screened from other shelters, are found to have mental illness, but are thought not to need hospitalization. Shelter here will be voluntary. Catholic Char-

ities will run this facility which will include short term beds for up to 200 and long term residencies for 200 more. The state and city promised to provide a 24 hour peace officer available to go into the neighborhood if necessary to return shelter clients to Creedmore. They are building a fence now to improve security within the hospital only. Social workers will be available and nursing and doctor services will be provided. They will consider providing bus service direct to the city for those clients wishing to return. None of the agencies would admit to responsibility for any action of the clients once they leave the grounds. You should approach these people with care.

On March 17, a State legislator toured and met several representatives of different associations at Creedmore. There is still a high level of emotionalism displayed at all of these meetings and we are saying that we will not give up. Several cases were discussed in which residents were abused or embarrassed and many parents mentioned that they are afraid to let their children out alone.

SENIOR CITIZENS NOTICE \$\$\$

The new income limit for the 50 percent reduction in the Real Property Tax is now \$ 10500.00 per year, in the City of New York.

Starting next year, there will be a new stepwise tax reduction for incomes above \$ 10500.00 up to \$ 13500.00.

Charles Theophil

LIBRARY NEWS

ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP - A book discussion group is scheduled for Thurs., April 26 at 10:30 AM. Edith Wharton's classic The House of Mirth will be highlighted.

TAX HELP FOR SENIORS - Through the services of the AARP, Tax Help for Senior Citizens will be available at no cost every Thursday from 1-5 continuing through April 12.

JUVENILE BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP - This group continues to meet. Grades 5 and 6 are welcome. Inquire in the library for dates.

YOUNG ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP - Grades 7, 8, and 9 are welcome to sign up for a book discussion group. Inquire in the library about dates.

FLOWER ARRANGING PROGRAM On April 12th at 10:30 AM, a representative from the Queens Botanical Gardens will give hints on flower arranging, and the technique of making silk flowers.

KIDS! COME CELEBRATE .. NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK ... WEDNESDAY APRIL 11 3:30 - 5:00 PM - Design and paint your own "tee" shirt. Bring a clean white "tee". Refreshments will be served.

PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN'S FILMS - Every Friday afternoon at 1:30 and 3:30 films for pre-school age children will continue to be shown.

CAREER PLANNING - Anyone interested in a career planning program, please fill out questionnaire available in the library.

SHOW TIME

The Chappell Players of St. John's University will be presenting KISS ME KATE on April 5, 6, 7, 13, 24 at 8 PM and a matinee performance on Sunday, April 15 at 3 PM. Tickets are \$5.00 & \$4.00 and the performances will be held in the Little Theatre on the St. John's campus, Union Turnpike & Utopia Pkwy. For further information, call 990-6783.

HANDICAPPED

Employment opportunities for disabled New Yorkers are made known now by way of a toll-free Hotline. The number - 1-800-635-6333 - is in operation weekdays from 10 AM to 3 PM to serve disabled persons currently employed by the state, as well as those seeking employment. This Hotline is made possible by a joint effort of the State Department of Social Services Commission for the Blind & Visually Handicapped, the Department of Civil Service and the Education Department's office of vocational re-habilitation.

SPRING SALE

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, located on Commonwealth Blvd. & 87th Ave. will present its annual Spring Sale on Thursday, April 12th, from 10 AM to 4 PM.

Sponsored by the Women's Service Guild, it will feature white elephant, second chance, Avon, plants, handmades, novelties, books, cards and napkins, as well as homemade chocolate, cakes and cookies. Stop by and have something to eat while you are shopping. The snack bar will be open from 11:30 to 1 PM.

PRIMARY DAY

New Yorkers will have their opportunity to go to the polls and cast their ballot for the presidential candidate of their choice on Tuesday, April 3rd. As on Election Day, all polling places will be open from 6 AM to 9 PM. It's a privilege to be an American and have a say in governing policies and here is a chance for each registered voter to become personally involved. Under a new ruling, you may register by mail all year by filing the appropriate form obtained by calling the Board of Elections at 392-8989. If you have registered by February, 1984 you may vote in the Primary even if you have not voted yet in a regular election, provided you indicated party preference.

QCFM

The Queens County Farm Museum located at 73-50 Little Neck Pkwy. has scheduled a four-session course for children, ages 7-12. Called Country Crafts, this will begin Saturday, April 7th and run from 10 AM to 12 noon. The

cost is \$15 for the course, plus a materials fee of \$5.00. The youngsters will be taught to make toys and tools that farm children made in years gone by.

Another Spring attraction at the Farmhouse will be the annual Antique Auto Show to be held, rain or shine, on Sunday, April 29th, from 11 AM to 4 PM. Donation will be \$2.00 for adults and Children, \$1.50.

Each Saturday, beginning April 7th, the Farmhouse will again be holding its Garage Sale from 11 AM to 3 PM. At that time you may also wish to bring over your donations. They sell almost everything except clothes.

If you would like to become involved in the workings of the Farmhouse, you may wish to volunteer your services as a tour guide. Docents are desperately needed for Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. If interested, please call 468-4355.



bellerose commonwealth
civic association, inc.

action news

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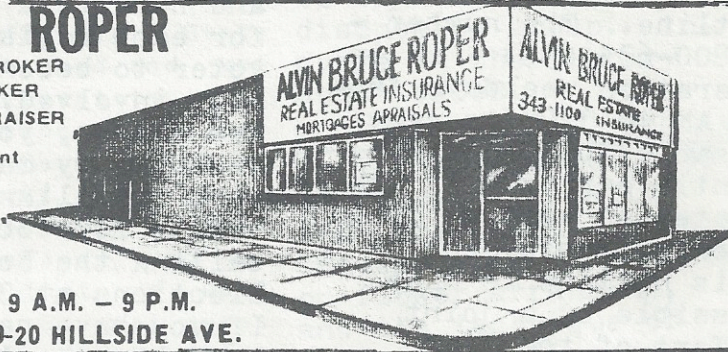
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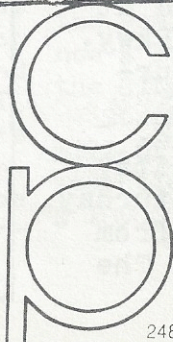


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