



Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association

action news

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May 2009

Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association

Special Date—Special Topic

Joint meeting with Queens Colony Civic Association

May 14, 2009, 8:00 pm

U.S. Census Bureau

Holy Trinity Church

Corner Commonwealth Blvd and 87th Ave

Refreshments

The Gavel

Our last meeting was well attended and we had a very knowledgeable speaker on elder-law and elder care. Many questions were answered and most members got a handout package with lots of interesting information, resources, etc. on the subjects of preparing for retirement years, caring for an elder, tax issues, gifting and inheritances, etc. This is a very important topic and it was great to see many new faces in the crowd. We hope that many of you learned a lot and will come down to future meetings.

The topic this month is the U.S. Census Bureau. This speaker has presented at other civics and is highly recommended as a thoroughly interesting and enthusiastic speaker. The Census Bureau has begun a serious campaign to make sure that all people are counted in the census. Many people, particularly those undocumented, are concerned that other agencies of government will be notified, but Census assures us that all information gathered is strictly confidential.

But an accurate count is vital to ensure that we get our fair share of federal funds that are distributed proportionately. In addition, this count determines representation in Congress.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Commonwealth Blvd & 87th Ave.

Holy Trinity parishioners and friends celebrated Pastor Schulz's 10+ years with Holy Trinity during a surprise cocktail party held at the Plattdeutsche Park restaurant on Sunday afternoon, April 26th. Come to a Sunday service and see for yourself why we celebrated this occasion. Rich and Mary Ann Hellenbrecht represented the BCCA and had a great time.

Holy Trinity continues with:

Kids Club 5-7pm on Wednesday (dinner included \$3 per day) ages K-5th grade

Study of Rick Warren's Purpose Driven Life - Wednesday 10 am and 7:30 pm (dinner served at 6:30pm)

Mai Fest - May 2 -Contact church for tickets - 718-347-0278 - Saurbraten is served while enjoying some German Music, Dance and Beer. Dinner is \$18 per person (\$40 per family)

Sunday Worship Services - 9 am and 10:30 am - Please join us.

Call: 718-347-0278 or visit
www.Holytrinitybellerose.org

Community News Announcements

Gas explosion—We were all devastated to hear about the gas explosion that resulted in the death of a mother of three and leveled her home on 260th Street and destroyed two others. Some serious questions have to be answered about how this happened, but a critical lesson is report all gas odors immediately and be prepared to evacuate. Our hearts and prayers go out to the family and all those in Floral Park affected by the explosion.

Swine Flu—It is time to take precautions against the potential epidemic or even pandemic of Swine Flu. Watching what's happening in Mexico this can be a very scary thing, especially since it has been discovered in our back yard at St. Francis Prep. Many Bellerose youth go there and we hope they are all fine. Meanwhile wash your hands often and cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing.

Accident on 247th Street—I saw the results of an accident last week at 249th Street and 87th Avenue. I don't know what caused it, but it is a re-

minder to fully stop at every stop sign and proceed with extreme care and most importantly **don't speed**, observe the 30 mph limit. Corner homes are encouraged not to have large bushes that can block vision of on coming traffic or to park vans or SUVs at or near a corner. We have asked the Community Board to once again request four way stop signs at this and other dangerous intersections.

E Train Service Interruptions—If anyone needs to use the E Train over the weekend of May 9 to May 11 be forewarned. There will be significant reductions due to planned track work between Roosevelt Avenue and the World Trade Center. Plan accordingly, use an alternate.

Burglaries Thwarted—We hear from our neighboring civics that a couple of burglaries were broken up and the perpetrators arrested thanks to observant neighbors who were not afraid to call the police. In one case, Jerry Wind, President of Bellerose-Hillside Civic Association saw some guys

suspiciously walking down the street knocking doors and looking down driveways. After knocking on doors they went back to their car and put on gloves and hoods and broke into the house. Jerry called the police, who arrived quickly and caught them in the act. Glad Jerry was around and acted quickly.

Frozen Cup and Hotel—Over the past two weeks our local Frozen Cup building was demolished. A "partial job" permit was issued on April 23 for a three story hotel, but at least in theory the property is still for sale—a large sign on the construction fence says "Available". In addition, the construction fence is ugly.

A protest rally is planned by Queens Colony Civic Association for May 2 at Frozen Cup to demonstrate the community is opposed to the project.

Girl Scouts Collect Coloring Books—Bellerose Girl Scout Troups and families stepped to the plate by collecting and donating coloring books, crayons and markers to Schneider Children's Emergency Room. Collection is ongoing. If you have such materials please bring it to the Civic Association Meeting on May 14. Please help.

Block Party Permits—As the warm weather arrives, please don't forget about your Block Party Permits. The City requires a 90 day filing. Please call Stephanie at CB13Q at 718-464-9700.

BCCA Board
Meeting, April
2009

*Standing, Left to
Right—Bill Turis,
James Delaney,
Vance DiSilva,
Rich Hellenbrecht*

*Seated, Left to
Right—Ruben
Gonzales, John
Reh, George Wolf.*

