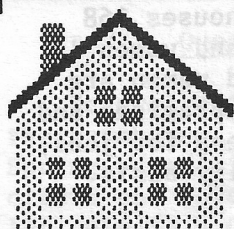


bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.



action news



**PROTECT
YOUR
HOUSE**

**MATTHEW MATZA
WILL TALK ABOUT
HOME SECURITY
SYSTEMS**

**APRIL 7 AT 8
HOUSE OF HOPE
CHURCH**

Meetings

Last month we were pleased to hear from the Internal Revenue Service and we got some good tips on the new tax law and filing. The April meeting will feature Matthew Matza, a local entrepreneur with a lot of experience and information to share with us on alarm systems and home security. Mr. Matza lives in the Bellerose area and specializes in burglar, smoke and fire detectors, medical alert. Please come down and learn more about how to protect your home and property.

PRESIDENT'S GAVEL

Welcome Spring! I hope you have all completed and filed your taxes by now. We can all begin to concentrate on our lawns and gardens, painting our houses and various spring cleaning and fix-ups. We at the BCCA hope this season brings us good news on a lot of fronts and improves Bellerose. We are still waiting for an answer from the City Department of Transportation about our continuing fight for traffic control on 86th Avenue. We also hope to have our final meeting with the designers on the Commonwealth Blvd reconstruction project this spring. One of the most important things we should all be thinking about, though, is the upcoming Charter Review Commission recommendations. Voting this fall could change the way we live, particularly in the outer boroughs.

R. C. Hellenbrecht

Water Meters

The Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Water Register began installing water meters approximately one year ago. The estimated completion of this project is ten years and at that time every residential and commercial building will have a meter.

Since the City of New York has made the installing of meters mandatory, there will be no charge to the owners for either the meter nor installation.

(continued page 2)

**WE MEET THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT HOUSE OF HOPE
CHURCH, CORNER 248TH STREET AND 85TH AVENUE**8:00 PM****

(continued from page 1 Water Meters)

If you do not have a meter, you are paying an Annual Frontage Water and Sewer Charge. The figure that is charged annually is an estimate based on the size of your property. So if in your home there are three family members and your next door neighbor has only two members, you are both probably currently paying about the same amount annually for water.

A meter will be on the outside of your house for easy access for reading. This will supposedly save the owners money since you will only pay for the water used. We have heard from other areas that, for instance, a single person living alone will probably receive a significant cut in water payments. On the other hand, a couple with four children and a swimming pool will probably pay a lot more. You better start planning now for saving water once the new meters come in.

Jean Biancaniello

Bellerose Post Office

The Bellerose branch of the U.S. Post Office on Braddock Avenue will be closing early every Thursday as an economy measure. Effective immediately, the branch will be closing at twelve noon on Thursdays until further notice.

DUES ARE DUE

Our Treasurer, Ross Fertitta reports that our dues receipts are at their worst for this time of year in several years. The BCCA has been working very hard to represent the residents of the Bellerose community and to put out a first class newsletter to keep you informed. We have consistently held informative, vital meetings with knowledgeable speakers on subjects of importance to you and your neighbors.

We urgently need your support. If you are a Block Captain and have not yet collected or returned your block's dues, please do so as soon as possible; if you

have not been visited by your Block Captain yet, please send your dues directly to:

Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association
c/o Ross Fertitta
250-11 87th Avenue
Bellerose, NY 11426

Creedmore RCCA

For those of you who might have forgotten, we are still living next door to the Creedmore Residential Care Center for Adults. This facility houses 168 homeless, mentally ill men and women in separate areas. The men and women are generally free to leave the premises and are transported to other areas for jobs, school or treatment on a daily basis.

We have been quite fortunate that this facility has been quiet and not too many problems have been reported to the BCCA. We are continuing, though, to represent you in monthly meetings with Catholic Charities, managers of the RCCA. The current Director of the facility, Dr. Joseph, is an extraordinary administrator and is very concerned for both the welfare of his clients and for the neighborhood. We are still concerned about a few of the activities at the center, but most problems are resolved with the continuing oversight by the neighboring civic presidents.

We have been told recently that the state hospital will set aside about forty beds for referrals of homeless mentally ill from Bellevue Hospital in Manhattan. In addition, there are numerous out-patient programs recently added to the campus which we are trying to learn about. We are pleased to report, however, that earlier problems seem to have been controlled with new restrictions, closer vigilance and continued interest by the community.

R. C. Hellenbrecht

Have A Happy Holiday!

Trucks on Jerico Turnpike

We reported last month on a letter we received complaining about trucks parked with motors running. One concerned citizen of Bellerose called to let us know that the Federal Department of Environmental Protection will investigate any such activity which might be polluting the environment and their citations would be more forceful than city parking tickets. Call the Department at (212)966-7500 to complain of specific instances.

Queens Farm Museum

Several activities are planned for the farmhouse. On April 6, Children's Spring entertainment featuring puppets, circus and novelty acts from 11 to 1:30 for only \$3. On April 24 the NY Antique Auto Club will hold an Antique Auto Show with exhibits of antique cars, entertainment and house tours.

Mark your calendars for May 22 for "The rites of Spring" at the Queens Farm Museum on Little Neck Parkway. The festivities will go on from noon til 5 with music and dance, sheep shearing, plowing, hay rides; things we're not too

accustomed to in Bellerose. The admission is \$3 for adults and \$1 for 6 to 12 year olds. For further information, call the museum at 347-FARM.

Charter Review Commission

The City Charter is under review because it violates a constitutional requirement for one person-one vote with its Board of Estimate structure. Mayor Koch has appointed a group of prominent NYC citizens to recommend a new charter which will be placed on the November ballot. While the Board of Estimate did not meet constitutional guidelines, it provided a measure of strength for the outer boroughs against the Executive Branch, because of its strong powers of land use and contracting. The individual City Council members will probably also lose some power because their districts may be reduced in size and constituents. The loss of this power will be deeply felt, especially in this area where Borough President Claire Shulman has vigilently exercised her powers and Councilman Leffler has strongly represented us. Watch the proceedings of the Commission carefully and let your feelings be known.



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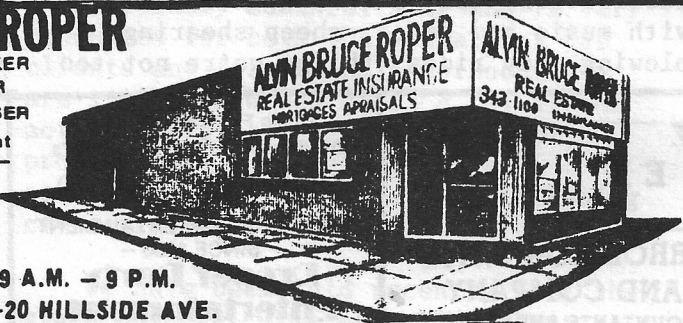
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