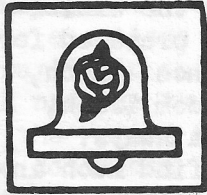


action news



bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.

VOLUME 3 NO. 8

OCTOBER

1976

Library Lost, Library Regained

"Bellerose loses its library" is how the Long Island Press reported the action of the Public Works Department in turning over the building of the Bellerose branch of the Q.B.P.L. to the Human Resources Administration.

Numerous telephone calls and correspondence from James Delaney, President of the B.C.C.A. and inquiries from Susan Noreika, Chairperson of Community Planning Board No.13 could elicit no firm information on the fate of the building. Even Councilman Troy had to find out from newspapers what was happening.

This perfect example of contempt and callous disregard of the wishes of the community galvanized the community and its leaders into a solid front against the implementation of this bureaucratic decision.

Councilman Troy, Senator Padavan, Assemblyman Esposto, Borough President Manes, Jim Delaney of this association, officers of civic organizations in Bellerose and vicinity, and residents of the community, reacted vigorously to what was intended to be a "fait

accompli", and Mr. Lou Frankfort, Executive Director of the Agency for Child Development of the Human Resources Administration withdrew the request to use the building as a "recreation center."

The membership of the B.C.C.A. has gone on record that the building should be used for the purpose for which it was built --- a library.

If, for any reason, this building is to be put to another use, then there must be full community participation in the decision-making. We will not accept an imposed decision.

BURGLARY PREVENTION SEMINAR

Burglary remains the number one crime in our area. Captain William Visser of the 105th Precinct believes that the public must assist the police by following recommendations in order to reduce their vulnerability toward being the victim of a crime. To this end, Captain Visser has inaugurated a Burglary Prevention Seminar which will be conducted at

7:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the 105th Precinct.

Det. William Chirkis, 105th Precinct Crime Prevention Specialist, will be conducting the seminars. The program will include a film presentation on premises protection and a security devices display and lecture. A question and answer period will be conducted.

NOTICE

THE NEXT MEETING
THURSDAY

October 7, 1976

Guest of Honor:
Mrs. Rhoda Salter

Guest Speaker:
Mr. Maurice Weisbrot
Director of Recreation
NYC Parks Department

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COME AS YOU ARE

Your presence is requested at our October meeting (October 7) to honor Mrs. Rhoda Salter, Director of the Pre-school Program at P.S. 133. Mrs. Salter has served P.S. 133 for some 15 years. Prior to this, she was assigned to P.S. 213 for a six month period.

Mrs. Salter's assignment at P.S. 133 was to develop recreational and educational programs for pre-school children --- a truly monumental task. Through Mrs. Salter, the children were introduced to reading, telling time, writing, and discipline. They developed through her guidance the important concepts of playing, adjusting to, and working with their peers.

We are deeply saddened to learn that Mrs. Salter will be retiring next month. Her advice and friendship will be missed by the mothers and teen-agers, but especially she will be missed by our young children who have grown closest to her.

With Mrs. Salter will be Mr. Maurice Weisbrot, our guest speaker. Mr. Weisbrot, Director of Recreation in the New York City Parks Department, will discuss the present and future problems and programs at P.S. 133 playground.

Many of us had been greatly concerned whether or not there would be a replacement for Mrs. Salter's position. We are happy to announce that Mr. Eric Weisbrot will assume this post at P.S. 133.

A special "thank you" will be given to Mrs. Salter at the October meeting recognizing her many years of dedicated service to the community.

We urge each and everyone in our community to be present at our meeting as we show our tribute to a wonderful and dedicated person.

New York Festival Barge

Leaves are turning, school is open and the air has a crisp smell of autumn. But the memories of summer jaunts linger and there's still a treat in store for those who enjoy delving into history. New York State has prepared a floating exhibition of historic memorabilia pertaining to the political, military, and cultural character of the state from 1765 to 1789, referred to as The New York Festival Barge.

Many surprises await you on the two levels of this gaily decorated barge depicting our State's journey through the Revolutionary era. Men and women alike shared in the struggle to stand on their own two feet in this critical period of the birth of the United States.

The top deck contains a stage where you may find a nautical group entertaining with rousing sea chanties. Before progressing to the lower deck, you will pass through an area designed to illustrate leisure activities in Revolutionary times with games set up for the children to try. The far

end of the upper deck houses a mini post office with special bicentennial stamp issues for sale.

Continuing to the exhibitions below, be prepared for a total experience which, unlike the Freedom Train, has no moving pathways. There you will find much information attractively arranged in slide exhibits, posters, tableaux and movies, culminating in a charming reconstruction of a model street in Old New York. Here there is an operating print shop, weaving demonstrations, a model counting house and general merchandise store.

This picture of our State presented in such an attractive manner instills a deep feeling of pride and appreciation in us for those brave ancestors who provided the groundwork for making New York "The Empire State."

Public viewing of the Barge is free of charge. The remainder of the tour will take it to Oyster Bay October 5 - 7; Rye October 8 - 10; the Worlds Fair Marina in Queens October 12 - 14; and to South Street in Manhattan on October 16. No smoking, food, or beverages are allowed on board and there are no rest room facilities.

Betty Platania

Your Vote Counts

The primaries are over. The candidates have been selected. Unfortunately, the New York Times reports, "the turnout was light --- less than one quarter of the 3.7 million enrolled Democrats and even fewer of the 2.8 million enrolled Republicans."

Elections are just a month away. We urge every person eligible to vote to cast a ballot on Election Day. One needs only to read the daily newspaper to realize that free elections are becoming a rarity in this world. Of 144 nations that are members of the United Nations only two dozen can be considered democracies. And the number is diminishing.

Mrs. Abzug lost to Mr. Moynihan by about 7,000 votes. This is a loss by less than one vote in each election district in the state. One vote CAN make a difference. And the one vote may be yours.

Welcome Aboard

Welcome to Charles McCarthy as new Managing Editor of the B.C.C.A. ACTION NEWS. We're looking forward to Charlie's able assistance. Charlie is replacing Bernard Wechsler who recently resigned. Bernie has given us the benefit of his knowledge and experience while working on the newsletter for the past two years. We're sure that Bernie, member of our Board of Directors and several committees, will continue to be active in the B.C.C.A.

Welcome also to Mrs. Marie Copertino who was chosen by the Board of Directors to fill a vacancy on the Board. Many of our members know Mrs. Copertino as the Treasurer of the Golden Age Leisure Club.

Spur Property Transfer

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority has given final approval for the sale of portions of its Creedmoor railroad right-of-way to abutting homeowners.

Two parcels that were not accounted for delayed the transfer since the terms required 100% of the homeowners to participate. Assemblyman John Esposito who spearheaded the drive that enabled the homeowners to acquire the property has helped resolve the problem.

Mr. Bacco, M.T.A. Manager for Real Estate, advised ACTION NEWS that deeds have already been prepared. After they are recorded, they will be transmitted to the new owners, probably during the first week of October.

The Creedmoor Farmhouse

On September 14, 1976, the N.Y.C. Landmarks Preservation Commission held a public hearing to determine whether the Creedmoor farmhouse, its out-buildings, and seven surrounding acres should be declared an official City Landmark.

With the unanimous approval of the members present at the September meeting, the B.C.C.A. recommended in a letter to the Landmarks Commission that the landmark designation be awarded to the Creedmoor farm. Our recommendation was noted at the public hearing. The Commission's decision is not expected until November.

James Trent and members of the Colonial Farmhouse Restoration Society gave an impressive slide presentation concerning the farmhouse at our February meeting.

The house, built around 1750, is one of the six oldest houses in Queens. The farm is the largest, oldest,

and best preserved farm in the five boroughs.

Join The Pack

Cub Scout Pack 216 of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church has opened its annual membership drive.

Applications will be available at the October Pack meeting on October 14 (the second Thursday).

Now is the time to join the Pack.

Betty Platania, acclaimed by many of our members for her series "Where Bellerose Worships", has recently been acknowledged in correspondence from Dorothy Rodger and Assemblyman John Esposito for her article on the Rufus King Mansion. Mrs. Rodger, who died this September, was President of the Rufus King Association when Betty did her research for the article.
J.D.

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BICYCLE SAFETY

Bicycle safety is everyone's concern. Somehow, the notion persists that riding against traffic is the rule of the road. Nothing could be further from the truth. Riding rules are simple, and just common sense.

1. Obey all traffic signals and regulations. This means traffic lights, one way and stop signs.

2. Watch out for all motor-

ized vehicles.

3. Yield right of way to pedestrians.

4. Use hand signals. The car driver behind you can not read your mind.

5. Never hitch rides from vehicles.

6. Follow the direction of traffic flow and do keep to the right.

7. Never ride two on a bicycle.

8. Always ride straight.

9. Be sure that all safety equipment such as brakes, lights, horn, etc. are functioning properly.

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