# action



news

bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.

VOLUME 4 NO. 5

MAY

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1977

### SPRING DANCE

All the planning, all the arrangements to make the dance a success have been completed --- it is now up to us to show up at the dance and have an enjoyable fun-filled evening. We look forward to music to dance by, to the unlimited bar, to the hot buffet. But, primarily we look forward to seeing you at the Elks Lodge #2107 at 901 Lakeville Road, New Hyde Park at 9 p.m.

Tickets are still available from Dennis McGann for a modest \$12.50 per person. Call him at 343-3971 and tell him how many friends will be in your party. You can form your own table.

Continuing last year's practice, we will have a Basket of Cheer, a Fish-Bowl, some Door Prizes --- and a large measure of fun and fellowship.

### JUNE WALK

Time sure has a way of fleeting by, and before we

realize it, it is time for the June Walk. June 11 is the date.

Last year we had the Bi-Centennial as our theme. This year, you can make your imagination run wild as you plan your prize-winning costume, float, or decorated vehicle.

We still need volunteers to man the refreshment stands and to serve as judges.

We are hopeful that the businessmen and the individuals who contributed merchandise and the prizes that we were able to distribute will be as generous this year as they were last year.

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## COMMUNITY SCHOOL BOARD SLATE

BASS, Harvey B. CAULFIELD, William

COMO, Jack DALY, Marylen DORNBAUM, Neil GARAUFIS, Nicholas GERBER, Joel GOLDMAN, Lee HIRSH, Fran KURITZKES, Dorothea LEDDY, Faith O'ROURKE, Rev. Thomas J. PALZER, Carolyn R. PEHR, Kevin Lee SCHWARTZ, Frederick SCHWARZ, Judith WEINTRAUB, Harry ZARO, Helene

NOTICE

Civic Association at t

THE NEXT MEETING

MAY 5, 1977

REPRESENTATIVE
of the
SANITATION
DEPARTMENT

HOUSE OF HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Corner of 248th St. & 85th Avenue Bellerose

# "BELLEROSE OPERATION PRIDE"

Operation Pride gets into full swing this month.

The program is a varied one, including clean-up and beautification, a number of social activities sure to interest all segments of the community, all aimed at achieving a greater appreciation of our community as a pleasing, well-kept residential community.

Operation Pride grew cut of a meeting held on March 15 at St. Gregory's and attended by:

Father Alfred P. LoPinto of St. Gregory's
Jim Trent. President of Creedmoor Civic Association
Joan Vlaco. President of Bellerose Hillside Civic Association
Bob Moran. President of Queens Colony Civic Association
John Reh. Vice President of Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association
George Wolf. Security Officer and Director of Bellerose Commonwealth
Civic Association

Jim Delaney. Director of Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association and Member of Community Planning Board No. 13

Dennis McGann. President of Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association, the Parish Council, and Member of Community Planning Board No. 13

Participating in the planning and insuring community-wide support were the Girl Scouts, the Boy Scouts, and the P.T.A. of P.S. 133.

From parish pulpits, through newsletters and meetings, we will be informed of the wide array of activities planned.

The local schools will have a Poster campaign with "What I like best about Bellerose Community Pride" as the theme.

The Civics and Parish sponsored events include:

- May 1 (Sunday) A uniform sermon from all parish pulpits.
- May 7 (Saturday) Fourth Annual Spring Dance sponsored by the Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association at the Elks Club, New Hyde Park. 9 p.m.-l a.m. \$12.50 per person.
- May 14 (Saturday) Clean-up of service road (both sides) of Cross Island Parkway.

  Concerned citizens bring work gloves and rakes. Assemble at 10:00 a.m. at
  the overpass at Commonwealth Blvd. and Hillside Avenue. Chairperson. Joan
  Vlaco, President of Bellerose Hillside Civic Association.
- May 21 (Saturday) Health Fair to be held at St. Gregory's Oak Room. Chairman. Bob Moran, President of Queens Colony Civic Association.
- May 21. (Saturday) Square Dance at Assembly Hall 80-45 Winchester Blvd. \$5.00 per person (includes snacks and soft drinks). 8 p.m. to 12. a.m. Sponsored by the Colonial Farmhouse Restoration Society.
- June 11 (Saturday) Annual June Walk. Sponsored by the Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association.
- June 12 (Sunday) Community Picnic at the Creed Farm. 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. No admission cost. Cold luncheon picnic baskets permitted. No Barbeque. Available for sale will be hamburgers, hot dogs, beer, mixed drinks, and soft drinks. Pony rides for children will be available.

# COMMUNITY SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

Date: May 3, 1977 (Tuesday)

Time: 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Place: Your usual polling place

Electing members to the Community School Board is as important as voting for candidates for political office --- and the result of the election has a more immediate impact on the community. It has been justly said "As the schools go, so does the community."

We in School District #26 are most fortunate. We are indeed first city-wide -- you name it -- in reading scores, in mathematics achievement, in attendance. And this is no accident.

As a matter of fact, this has been achieved against a background of decreasing budgets, retrenching of supportive services (librarians and counsellors), and the excessing of classroom teachers. School population is shrinking, schools are threatened with closing, and further cuts always loom in the background.

The School Board is the front line of the community's commitment to education. Good schools attract families and retain them. Close the schools, or down-grade or diminish its offerings, and the community begins to lose its stability.

From the slate of candidates, nine are to be elected. Selection is made by placing #1 before your first choice, #2 before your second choice, #3 before your third choice and down the line indicating your preferences for positions on the School Board. If your first choice has been elected, then fine. If your first choice was not elected on the first count, your candidate may be elected as the second choice, or the third, or fourth choice.

The important thing is to GET OUT AND WOTE. Failure to vote is interpreted as a sign of apathy, that we do not really care what happens to our schools and to our children. This is hardly true. There is the misconception that elections for the School Board are of interest only to families that have children in school. This is not so. Families with no children ARE vitally concerned. They pay for education whether they have children or not. And they should know how their money is being used. Also, if the community becomes de-stabilized, it becomes de-stabilized for residents both with and without children.

Of the eighteen candidates running for office, twelve attended our April meeting held March 31, to present their views funding, ethnic surveys, utilization of school buildings, bi-lingual education and other problems besetting the school system. They also answered questions from the floor. Other candidates who could not attend in person due to previous commitments were represented by proxies or sent statements to the meeting.

The slate before us is quite varied. Some candidates are running for re-election and cite their experience and accomplishments. More than half of the candidates are "new" and pointed to innovative ideas or suggestions on coping with the problems that the School Board faces. All candidates came with endorsements from PTAs, Civic groups, professional groups, union-backing and other interested organizations.

B.C.C.A. does not endorse any individual candidates. As individuals, we each must make our choices. All candidates have attended numerous meetings in the district and their views and positions should be well known by now. It is a well balanced group of experienced and "new", those knowledgeable in the ways of the Board and those who would bring new insights. The choice is ours, if we can GET OUT AND WOTE ON MAY 3.

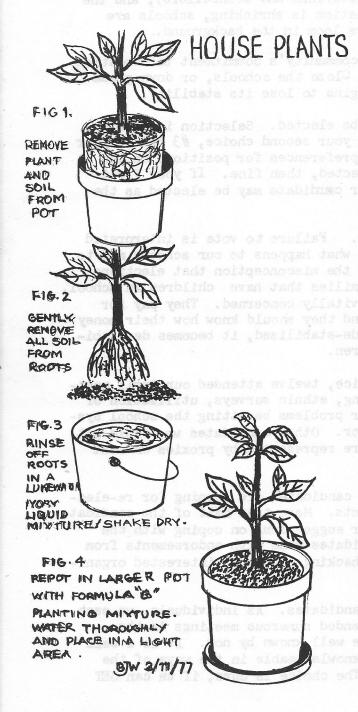
# "Green around the corner"

by Bernie Wechsler

HOUSE PLANTS: Most house plants' soil becomes hard and an alkali residue forms on top from using tap water to water the plant.

Also, most plants become "pot-bound" when the roots fill the area beneath the soil and press against the sides and bottom of the pot. This prevents proper growth.

Re-plant using the following steps:



### ADULT ENTERTAINMENT

At its meeting of February 22, the Officers and Directors of the B.C.C.A. passed this motion unanimously:

"The Board of Directors recommends to the membership to go on record opposing the operation in our community of "adult entertainment" as not being in keeping with the tone and character of this community.

Furthermore: That the recommendation be communicated to the appropriate elected officials as the District Attorney, the Captain of the 105th Precinct, the Attorney-General, the Mayor, the Borough President, and the City Councilman for this district."

The tide of porno films keeps rolling east and nine movie houses now show their X-rated wares in Queens. Two of these theatres showing "adult" films are in neighboring Queens Village. Last year there was one such theatre in Queens Village.

As the City Administration attempts to "clean-up" the Times Square area, these movie houses and book shops move into other areas of Manhattan or across the river into Queens. Experience shows that porno shops and movie theatres can be harrassed and fined or shut down, only to re-open elsewhere.

The problem is not a simple one at all.

Balancing the First Amendment's guarantee
that "Congress shall make no law,.. abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press..."
with the latest Supreme Court decision permitting the application of "contemporary
community standards" as a yardstick will continue to create turmoil. A motion picture
that might be considered appropriate to the
Times Square area may not be considered suitable for a theatre in a residential area.

An attempt is being made to use zoning laws to control the spread of "adult entertainment" while respecting the rights of citizens to see or read what it wants. This approach has been found constitutional in Michigan.

The City ouncil has considered and then put aside for re-consideration a proposed law to control the porno activities in the city. The fear that its effect will be to disperse the activity into the other boroughs, and that as drafted the proposed law was unconstitutional has held up action.

### QUEENS COLLEGE

Queens College, in fact the entire City University, has been in crisis for the past two years, much of it due to political squabbling between the City and Albany aggravated by the financial "crunch" in which the City finds itself.

There is no doubt that "The preservation of Queens College as a quality institution is essential to a healthy and stable Borough of Queens."

The importance of Queens College to the Borough can be pointed out by a mere statement of facts.

Seventy five percent of Queens College students live in Queens.

Eighty percent of its graduates continue to reside in the Borough.

A recent survey showed that one cut of five families polled said that Queens College was a major reason for remaining in Queens.

The quality programs offered at Queens attracts thousands of applicants each year. Last year, 5,069 qualified students applied for admission at Queens, and designated Queens College as their first choice. In spite of the Board of Higher Education's announced policy of honoring the student's choice to the fullest extent possible, some 2,000 students were channelled into the community colleges or colleges not of the student's first choice.

This situation puts Queens College in a Catch 22 situation. The number of students assigned to Queens is cut down. The Board then turns around and says that enrollment has dropped, and therefore, the College will have to retrench. The fact is that if all the students who designated Queens as their first choice were assigned to Queens, we would have to add to the faculty, not reduce its numbers.

With the imposition of tuition (the price for additional state aid) freshmen and sophomores pay tuition costs of \$387.50 per semester. Upper classmen pay more. From our Senatorial district (the 12th) some 12,000 students attend the City University. Quick multiplication shows that students and their families in this district are now paying more than one million dollars a year for tuition. This for diminished service in shabbier surround-

Neither Queens College not the City University should be allowed to deteriorate further. The positive contributions of the city colleges are felt in the City and beyond. City College claims four of its undergraduates as Nobel Prize laureates. Queens College students won all three of the National Science Foundation graduate fellowships awarded in the ity University system. Of fifteen honorable mentions for the fellowships in the city system, 10 went to Queens College students. The record speaks for itself. Let's help continue this record by keeping the City University strong and well-funded.

### OUR REPORT FORM

The Report Form in last month's Action News is the "Complaint" form that we had announced in the March issue. Please use it if you are aware of any condition in this community that requires attention.

Please be as specific as possible in describing the condition to be remedied and the exact location. We realize that in almost every case we can expect the old refrain "due to the financial crunch in the city..." But do not let that deter you. Report. At least the condition will have been put on record.

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### WE WILL HELP

Civic associations do have their place in the community, especially when the needs of the community are obvious and the response of city agencies is silence or longer than necessary delays.

Our neighbors east of Little Neck Parkway convinced of the benefits that a civic association can bring to a community are re-organizing a civic association to serve the area of Floral Park east of Little Neck Parkway and between Hillside Avenue and the Nassau County line to the east and south.

Brenda Tinger of 256th Street is spear-heading the organization drive. The officers of the B.C.C.A. have volunteered to help in any way they can to get this neighboring Civic under way.



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In addition, they provide the needed services that the residents require. Incidentally, they also help finance the "ACTION NEWS".

The message is obvious. In simple, direct terms: PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS! They have earned our loyalty and patronage.

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