

# action news

bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.

VOLUME 2 NO.9

NOVEMBER

1975

## OUR PAPER IS HAVING IT'S Birthday...so we made it A new look!

"Where have all the young men gone . . " the opening line to a once popular folk ballad. Our theme song for the BCCA should begin with, "Where have all the people gone"?

A couple of years ago when the civic association was reactivated, the basement of Holy Trinity Church was so crowded with people, that there was standing room only. I wonder where all those interested people have disappeared to?

The number of people attending our monthly meetings seems to grow smaller and smaller. is not unusual that the Executive Board, with the Board of Directors, outnumber those in the audience. Come November it will be the responsibility of the Nominating Committee to present a new slate of candidates to fill vacated positions on the Executive Board as well as the Board of Directors. If so few attend meetings, where will the new officers come from and upon whose shoulders will the future of the Civic Association

rest? The current group now in office cannot do it for an indefinite period of time. We need

more concerned and interested homeowners to become involved. Why not give up an empty evening of watching TV to come out, meet your neighbors and learn what's going on in and around our community.

We are open to all kinds of suggestions -- an earlier time to begin meetings, interesting topics and speakers -coffee and cake when feasible. Let us know what you want, and we'll give it a try. If you've got some problems, well there's more of a chance to get them solved if you let us know. A letter or phone calls from the Association carries more weight than a letter from John Doe who lives on some street in Bellerose.

Come to the next meeting, meet the candidates, let's make 1976 an outstanding year!

Christina McGann

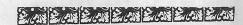
This Birthday Edition is the first of our new look. We have enlarged our action news" so that more articles of interest will be available to the membership. We need the cooperation of all our members to submit articles to the Managing Editor by the 15th of each month. This Birthday Edition has an enlarged advertising section. Next month it will return to its original size. B.J. Wechsler

THE NEXT MEETING THURSDAY

NOV. 6, 1975

at 8:30 PM HOUSE OF HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CORNER OF 248 ST.& 85TH AVE.



# The Bellerose = Story When the to provide

The history of Bellerose. Queens, is a rather sketchy one. More has been written of the area located in Nassau, known as the Incorporated Village of Bellerose. It is known, however, that around the turn of the Century, some of the land presently known by us as Bellerose, was owned by a family named Rose. Their farm was located on the south side of the railroad tracks where a private wooden station or loading platform stood, west of the present Long Island Railroad station. The name written on this structure was "Bellerose" and it was learned that in the Rose family there was a daughter named Belle. Thus it was assumed that Pappa Joseph Rose could do no better than name his station Belle Rose, also in keeping with the already existing custom in Floral Park of naming streets after flowers.

In 1906 the United Holding Company was formed to purchase and develop 77 acres of property, with Mrs. Helen M. Marsh of Lynn. Mass. as General Manager. The total acreage was operated as a gladiola field. first house was erected in 1910 and it became Mrs. Marsh's custom to live in each house constructed until she found the right family to rent or sell to -- each being thoroughly investigated before being permitted to settle down. In all. she lived in 22 of the houses in the Village.

When the L.I.R. agreed to provide service to the community, Mrs. Marsh named the station Bellerose, expecting the property owners to choose a permanent name at a later date. In 1917, however, they unanimously ratified her choice.

Today there are many people who believe that Bellerose is confined to the Incorporated Village and of course we in the Queens area are in no way a part of them. -> According to an early letter from Mrs. Marsh to Mr. Herbert Ricard. Historian for the Borough of Queens, the name . . . is . . . "suitable for a high class development. The reason it has been taken and used from one end of the county and the City of Queens, is because it is a unique development and so different from most places." 3nd Part 2

Records defining boundaries are again quite sketchy, but a general breakdown indicates the following:

To the East -up to but excluding
Little Neck Parkway

To the North -up to but not crossing
Grand Central Parkway

To the West -an irregular line running through the 236 numbers, including Gettysburg Street and Braddock Avenue

To the South -again an irregular line,
to LIRR Station in part,
difficult to present in
a general manner. (Information supplied by the

Manager of the Bellerose Post Office.)

The Borough of Queens seems to be very indefinite and disinterested in boundaries at our East End, and in a 1948 speech by the then Borough President (Burke), he said, "I hope some day that you will forget about your own individual communities like Bellerose, etc., and become one united County of Queens."

We hope that this will never be, as we believe we have one of the finest communities in Queens and the builders

in the past have tried to conform to the beauty of the Incorporated Village of Bellerose.

In a coming issue of the Action News, look for a history of the churches of Bellerose.

Anyone wishing to contribute information about the history of Bellerose, please feel free to call me at 347-5914.

Sebastian Platania

#### HELPFUL HINTS

Do not discard bicycle innertubes. Use them on the bottom of shaving or deodorant spray cans. Cut one inch of innertube as in Figure 1; stretch over bottom of container, Figure 2. This will prevent can from leaving rust marks on sinks or tank tops. 11/75

### SECURITY

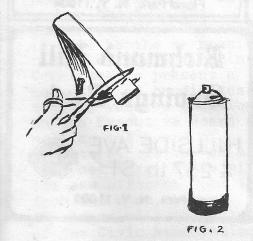
The Crime Prevention Officer of the 105th Precinct and myself made a security survey of our area. We again have a few recommendations as to the safety in our community:

Many homes are still without visible house numbers. Numbers are either not up or if they are up, shrubs are obstructing them from view. In case of an emergency, the police, fire or ambulance will have trouble locating your home if there isn't a visible house number.

Most crimes are committed in the dark. On our walk through Bellerose, it was astonishing to see how many homes had no outside lights on. It only costs a few pennies a month to leave a front and back light on. In the end, this small cost might save you many dollars in theft costs.

Let me remind you that the alarms are available to all members -- make use of them.

George Wolf



### NUMBERS TO KEEP

In view of the fact that lists invariably become misplaced or lost, below is a list of phone numbers which you might like to put in a convenient place near the telephone:

Police 911 740-0600 105 Pct. 911 Fire Queens Central Office 847-6600 911 Ambulance 343-6700 L.I.Jewish 464-2424 Q.V.H.B.Vol. 964-1800 Abandoned Car 268-5000 Boro President Catch Basins Ful 566-3681 227-7900 City Councilmans 464-1000 Office 776-4439 Home Con Edison Emergency Serv: Elec. 463-1800 463-3100 Gas 268-1234 D.A. Queens 261-6200 Garbage Not Collected. Streets Not Plowed or 899-6262 Cleaned or 566-5656 or229-0020 Holes In St. or Curbing Missing or Brkn.268-5000 or 566-3255 or 566-3681 Mail Delivery Late or 347-4845 Not Satis. 658-0800 566-5700 Mayors Office 464-1650 Narcotics or 464-1240 or 344-9430 Office of Neighborhood 776-5217 Servs. Poison Control 340-4494

Queens Congressman L. Wolff 423-1050 229-2311 Senator F. Padavan 468-9516 State Assemblyman J. A. Esposito 465-1432 Street Lights Out 274-4200 274-4201 Street Sewer Clogged 966-7500 Traffic Signs Needed or 464-1650 Broken 361-8000 or Trees Need Pruning or 360-8127 Removal or 360-8151 or 360-8152 Trees Need Spraying (Horticultural Div.) 520-5311 Water Leak in Street, Fire Hydrant Broken 359-0976 Con Edison Question on Bills 460-2592 460-2601 or Ass't. Park Commissioner 360-8111

Dennis McGann

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Since teen-agers are too old to do the things kids do and not old enough to do things adults do, they do things nobody else does.

In some cities they are tearing down buildings to save taxes. Wonder if anyone has ever considered tearing down taxes to save buildings?



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