

# action news

-VOLUME 4 NO. 7

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1977

## GUEST SPEAKER

After months of screening 64 candidates for the post of District Manager for Community Planning Board #13, Rosemarri Celestino was selected.

Under the Charter Revision which went into effect in January, the various services which have been provided through over-lapping districts --- planning, police, sanitation, health, and mental health --- will be provided on a co-terminous basis. To see to it that the services are properly channelled, provision was made to allow each Community Board to select a District Manager who serves at the pleasure of the Board.

Our District Manager comes to us with a background of proven community service primarily in the field of health and education.

Her degree in Elementary Education was received from Queens College in 1973. She served as Assistant to the Medical Director of Queens. More recently she was Unit Coordinator for Special Educational Services for Emotionally Handicapped children.

A member of the National Honor Society, she was named one of the Outstanding Women of America in 1972.

Her community work has been extensive. Member of Community Board No. 3, Vice President of the Astoria Civic Association, Co-chairperson of the Queens Bicentennial Committee, and the list goes on.

Past service includes membership in the Service Cabinet of Community Board #12, in the Queens Council for Social Welfare, as well as the Jamaica Services Program for Older Adults.

With all this experience and energy, and with a dedication to serve, Community Board #13, as the commercial says, "We are in good hands."

As our first guest speaker for the new season, Mrs. Celestino may tell us more on what she does and how she does it. Please come.

## WE'RE BACK

Summer will soon be over. Vacations come to an end. Children will be returning to school. We of the Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association will be getting down to the business of sponsoring speakers, organizing programs, and getting action in those areas that are of greatest concern to us in Bellerose.

No community is static. During the year, some families have moved out. And we hate to see them go. Other families have moved in, and we welcome them in our midst.

Since any organization is only as good as its members make it, we ask your support by joining the B.C. C.A. as members, block captains, and as sources of ideas and programs.

With your support, we can make Bellerose a better place. Please join us.

### NOTICE

#### THE NEXT MEETING

SEPT. 8, 1977

8:30 P.M.

#### GUEST SPEAKER

Rosemarri  
Celestino

District Manager

HOUSE OF HOPE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Corner of 248th St.  
& 85th Avenue  
Bellerose

# LIBRARY. SUCCESS!

At the Executive Session of the Board of Trustees of the Queens Borough Public Library held August 18, two decisions were made:

1. Q.B.P.L. will take title to the Library building on November 1, 1977
2. The Bellerose Library will open not later than March 1, 1978.

By accepting title to the building, Q.B.P.L. assumes responsibility for the building. One of the concerns of the community had been that the Department of Real Estate might locate some city agency there, or even attempt to sell the building for some commercial enterprise, which would effectively foreclose the hope of opening the Library in Bellerose.

The decision to open the Library comes after a concerted effort to show the city fathers that the community was united on this goal --- and that we would not give up.

If any proof was needed, it was provided on August 2 when a rally jointly sponsored by the Bellerose Commonwealth Civic, North Bellerose Civic, and the Queens Colony Civic brought out about 700 residents who spoke with one voice "Bellerose Library Now". About a dozen speakers, politicians and local civic leaders backed the theme of "Bellerose Library Now". Some of the speakers have been with us from the very beginning --- Councilman Troy, State Senator Pada-

van, Assemblyman Esposito, Community Board Chairperson Susan Noreika.

Others who came to give support were Roy Goodman, Joseph Glover, and a representative from Borough President Manes' office.

Local leaders who spoke were Robert Moran of Queens Colony Civic and Dennis McGann who co-chaired the rally, and Howard Slaney of the B.C.C.A.

The decision to open the Library is dependent on the expected saving of some \$100,000 generated by computerizing the circulation system of Q.B.P.L. The additional \$100,000 will have to be found within its current funds through adjustment of services and re-allocations of funds.

The Executive Session that resulted in the solution to the two year headache was preceded by a meeting with civic and political leaders and the Director and Trustees which discussed the situation with an earnest view to finding ways to open the Library, rather than re-hash arguments why the Library could not be opened now.

Needless to say, we are delighted with the decision --- and we thank everyone, from the Library Trustees down to the tots who accompanied their parents to the July protest and the August rally, the civic leaders and political leaders who held numerous meetings and discussions, and of course the residents of the community, who contributed in their own way to opening the doors to the Bellerose Library.

# Cleanest Street

When the Department of Sanitation launched its "War on Litter" in July, district supervisors were asked to survey their areas and to designate the cleanest and the dirtiest street in each district.

The yardstick used included "such factors as the effort, attitude, and co-operation of residents, property owners and merchants in keeping sidewalks clean and free of litter, the proper containerizing or bagging of household refuse, the adherence to collection schedules, and in general obeying the Sanitary Code." Also taken into account "was a determination of the ability of a block to remain in a clean condition following normal sanitation services."

For our area, 253rd St. between 86th Avenue and 87th Avenue was judged the cleanest block in the district.

Congratulations, especially to members of the B.C.C.A. who live on this block.

Without detracting from the honor earned by the residents of 253rd Street, a survey of other blocks in our area show that they too would be equally deserving.

This is a reflection of the goals of Bellerose Operation Pride which was launched earlier this year and is an on-going project. Keeping Bellerose clean and a good area in which to live is only one of our goals.

The complete list of the cleanest and the dirtiest streets in the city appeared in the New York Times for July 7, 1977.

## JUNE WALK

As scheduled, the Stormy Knights of Our Lady of the Snows stepped forward with flags flying, drums rolling, and bugles blowing --- and the fourth Annual June Walk was marching into history.

With the marchers in their colorful costumes, original floats, and decorated bicycles turning on to 85th Avenue, officers of the B.C.C.A. and volunteers worked enthusiastically preparing the soft drinks, getting the ice cream, arranging the prizes, putting up flags and bunting and generally having a good time as they worked.

Flags were distributed to the marchers and to all the youngsters waiting in the school yard of P.S. 133 for the marchers to return and vie for the prizes.

Father Feldhaus of St. Gregory's gave the invocation and the program was under way.

Much of the success of the June Walks, as far as the youngsters are concerned, are the prizes donated by the Ideal Toy company of Jamaica and by interested residents of the area, the soft drinks (and the equipment to mix and dispense the refreshment) from Burger King. Frozen Cup of Jamaica Avenue at 249th Street made available the ice cream we all enjoyed.

For us, the success is getting getting businessmen and residents, youngsters and oldsters co-operating in a pleasurable event.

## On "Letters"

We do not receive too many "Letters to the Editor" even though we consider "Action News" a vehicle for residents in this area to air their views.

One of the letters in the June issue (our last issue before the summer break) created some flak.

True, the community flourishes when all segments of the population work together. Senior citizens who have lived for many years in this community give us stability, and have a right to the peaceful enjoyment of their property --- manicured lawns and all. Younger families with healthy active children have a right to raise their children --- noisy or sports-minded near their homes where parents can keep an eye out for them.

The writer did NOT advocate confrontation. Rather she asked for toleration and moderation, when she stated "Let us all endeavor to spend a peaceful summer, each of us setting reasonable limits so that all generations, youngsters and oldsters alike, are respectful of each other."

We seem to over-emphasize "rights". Everyone has "rights." We under-emphasize "responsibilities". No one wants to claim "responsibilities".

The solution is a correct balancing of rights and of responsibilities. As the writer of the letter suggests the key is one of "each of us setting reasonable limits."

Yes, we welcome letters to the editor. Let us hear from you.

## Please Help !

The Sanitation Department AWARD goes to the res-

idents of 253rd Street for their efforts in improving and maintaining the mall. This is a continuous, difficult, and often discouraging activity which can be eased if we respect the simple request of the residents.

"We residents of 253rd St. make a special request to all Dog Lovers. Please put yourself in our position. (253rd Street has the mall recently seeded, carefully weeded, and maintained by the residents with some professional help.)

We have more than the usual number of dog walkers coming to this street, better known in the community as "Dog Patch". On a hot, humid day it is down-right unpleasant. It is also very unhealthy for our children. It is very discouraging to us who cut the grass and try to maintain this mall. The request is simple. Please CURB YOUR DOG. KEEP YOUR DOG ON A LEASH. We know that we can count on the good people of Belle-rose to help us in our efforts to improve our streets!"

## medal winners

One activity that the B.C.C.A. is proud to sponsor is awarding medals recognizing the qualities of good citizenship in the youth of this community.

As in previous years, two members of the graduating class at P.S. 133 and two members from St. Gregory's were selected by the faculty and staff of each school to receive the awards.

The medal winners this year are:

P.S. 133

Avery Katz

Paula Sargent

St. Gregory's

Barbara Eichner


Vincent O'Hara

Congratulations to each!

\*\*\*\*\*

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**this community, we're ready**  
**and willing to help**  
**in any way that we can.**  
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**Think about it.**

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