



action news

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HOMEOWNER'S RESPONSIBILITY

Once again winter is upon us and we will have the usual sleet and snow. This is a reminder to the community that we have a responsibility to our neighbors to clear our sidewalks. The law specifies that 4 hours after the storm stops your sidewalk (except after 12 midnight, then in the morning) should be cleared. You could receive a citation (ticket) for non-removal of snow or not sanding of ice. If this is not enough, should someone fall on your sidewalk, then a lawsuit.

Last year the condition of some of the sidewalks I had to use walking home was a disgrace. An older person would have had serious difficulty maneuvering on some of the sidewalks that I crossed.

Surely there is one adult or teenage child in every home who could take care of this job. People with heart conditions should take care not to overwork and if need be hire a neighborhood teenager to clear the snow.

S.O.S.

No nominations came forth at our last meeting for the positions of President or Vice President for our new slate. It is hard to believe that out of 1200 families there aren't TWO people who care enough about our Civic to donate some of their time to this task. The BCCA is for all of us - YOU and ME. It doesn't just belong to the present twelve faithful people who have so generously given of themselves since it was re-activated. HOW MUCH TO YOU CARE?????

BOATING

Flotilla 12-8, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, will begin its 12 lesson course on Boating Skills and Seamanship on Tues., January 8, 1980 at 7:30 P.M. at the Martin Van Buren H.S., 232 St. and Hillside Ave., Q.V. The course will be given by qualified instructors and will cover many aspects of Boat Handling.

For early registration or additional information call Meredith M. Borden at 212-424-3895 or Helen Stripp at 212-528-1563. The course is FREE, but there is a minimum charge for material.



Notice

THE NEXT MEETING
THURSDAY

DEC. 6, 1979 8:30PM
GUEST SPEAKER
AIR TRAFFIC
CONTROLLER AT JFK

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

HOUSE OF HOPE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Corner of 248th St &
85th Avenue

100% ASSESSMENT

A rally to protest 100% assessment of our homes was held October 18th at Martin Van Buren High School. One point was saliently made: it is up to us to stop the reassessment.

The average increase for homes in Queens will be 138%, or \$1,292 per home. Added to my present real estate tax, it will give me a \$1,957 real estate tax bill. While we, the homeowners, are struggling to pay this increase, the commercial, industrial and utility classes will have decreases in their real estate taxes. Do you think its fair that Con Edison and New York Telephone will be paying 23% less in real estate taxes, while we pay 103% more? New York State and New York City will not be receiving any increase in tax revenues -- the burden of taxation will simply shift from the business classes to us.

Assemblyman John Esposito introduced a bill in the Assembly to repeal Section 306 of the Real Property Tax Law. His bill (#6136) calls for retention of the present system of tax assessment for New York City. It would give other local governments in the State the right to their own property tax assessment system.

ELECTION OF

OFFICERS ON

DEC. 6 8:30 pm

We must let the politicians know that we support Assemblyman Esposito's bill. We must let them know that we elected them, and that we will not re-elect them if something is not done to halt 100% reassessment. The politicians have assured us that they will safeguard our interests. They will implement tax credits and "circuit breakers" (tax rate based upon taxpayer's income) to ease the tax burden. One of the speakers at the rally put it very succinctly: "Giving money to politicians is like giving heroin to a drug addict."

By order of Mayor Edward Koch, reassessment has already begun in New York City. This reassessment process will cost taxpayers \$30,000,000 statewide. Assemblyman Esposito's bill must become law before the 1980 primaries, when politicians will certainly take up the torch to make reassessment a political issue. By then enough homes will be reassessed to make the higher assessment the majority. It will be too late.

We must contact our elected officials to demand that the Esposito bill be passed into law. Please let your voice be heard -- don't let Queens become a wasteland.

o
Laura Gonzalez

CHRISTMAS SALE

December 16th, 9 AM - 7 PM at St. Gregory's Church Basement (the Oak Room) West of Cross Island Parkway. Here's a good chance to pick up those last minute items right in the neighborhood.

REMINDER

You are cordially invited to attend the annual Girl Scout Craft event and Cake sale to be held on Tuesday, December 4th, 3 - 5 PM at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Please come.

A.B.R.

Your friendly neighborhood Real Estate Man -- warm, enthusiastic about Bellerose to the point of (in his words) "almost being chauvenistic"-- a word picture of the gentleman lending his name to the firm of Alvin Bruce Roper, Reas Estate.

Bellerose is, of course, an extremely desirable community for a Real Estate Broker. The last town in Queens, it is still easily accessible to the Big Apple by bus, subway or LIRR. Aside from this, our town is a plum in the Real Estate field because as a garden spot, it has "Pride of Ownership". This simply means each home owner is diligent about the upkeep of his home-- paint, repair, lawn care, snow removal.

Questioned on higher interest rates on mortgages, Mr. Roper admits they have a dilatorius effect on many who could have afforded buying one month, only to be pushed beyond this point the next. A major problem is that many banks, not obtaining a high enough yield, have refused to handle them. Those who do may have special restrictions, i.e. for depositors of a specified length of time only. In recent years, the lending institutions having agreed to give full

credit to two incomes, have granted more young couples purchasing power. Mr. Roper feels that housing is a super-important item in people's lives and they will gladly sacrifice other luxuries to make such purchase possible.

Mr. Roper has been selling homes in Bellerose since 1957, although he has lived here all his life. Employing eight people, he is quick to say they are all local people--the farthest traveling from New Hyde Park. Open 7 days a week from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., this office located on the southwest corner of 251st Street and Hillside Ave. has been known to burn lights far into the night, completing paper work on earlier transactions. Although each N.Y. State License permits a Real Estate broker to sell throughout the State, as a practical matter, Alvin Bruce Roper specializes in all of Eastern Queens and Western Nassau.

Betty Platania
FARM MUSEUM

On Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 1st and 2nd, a gala Holiday Bazaar featuring gift items including handmade goods will be held from 10 AM to 4 PM, free admission, at the Queens County Farm Museum. The following Saturday, Dec. 8th, the annual wreath-making course will again be offered. This year it

will be given for one day only, with three classes: 11 AM; 1 PM and 3 PM. The fee is \$5.00 which includes the ring, bowl, pine cones, greens, ribbon. You must bring your own shears to use to cut the wire, and what you make, you keep. Each class will run an hour and a half to two hours. If possible, pre-registration would be welcomed. Call 343-8830. The Museum is located at 73-20 Little Neck Parkway.

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