

**Mr. Kenneth Brecher**  
**Principal, P.S. 133**

**Election of Officers**

**December 2, 1999**

**8:00 PM**

Refreshments

House of Hope Church

Cor. 248th St. & 85th Ave.

Bellerose Commonwealth  
Civic Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 260225  
Bellerose, NY 11426



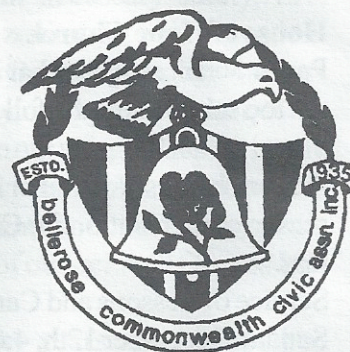
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We meet the first Thursday of each month at the House of Hope Church, corner 248th Street and 85th Avenue at 8:00 PM

**Use our clip out coupon inside**

bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.

# *action news*



Volume 25 No. 10

December 1999

## **President's Gavel**

by: *Richard Hellenbrecht*

We were pleasantly surprised at the November meeting to have a guest speaker from The Center for Rehabilitation address our members. The Center is conveniently located at Hillside Avenue and Little Neck Parkway. Ms. Linda Heinlein, Director of the Center came down to speak to Bellerose residents about the services offered at the Center. Several residents cited their own very positive experiences with the professional staff at the Center.

Ms. Heinlein said that most forms of medical insurance are accepted and staff at the Center will help with all the necessary paperwork. Physical and Occupational therapy are offered. My daughter Melissa went there for several months and received excellent care.

This month we will host Mr. Ken Brecher, principal of P.S. 133. This is an opportunity to meet the key person in our local public school. The quality of P.S. 133 has a lot to do with our quality of life and with the value of our houses.

Please stop by and meet Mr. Brecher.

On January 6 we will feature Frank Toner, a resident of Rocky Hill to our west. Mr. Toner is a financial expert and will discuss individual financial services. I've heard from Rocky Hill Civic members that this is a very helpful presentation, mark your calendars.

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### **Crime in our Area Reduces**

We were very happy to hear our Community Patrol representative report on crime in our neighborhood at the B.C.C.A. November meeting. He was unable to think of any particular notable criminal activity. That was satisfying.

According to statistics released by the 105th precinct, for the July through October 1999 period, the Bellerose section recorded felony crimes totaling 30, 27, 22 and 22 per month. This included one murder, 31 auto thefts and 26 burglaries.

### **New Banners on Jamaica Ave.**

The Bellerose Business District reports that 25 new "Happy Holidays" banners have been erected on Jamaica Avenue. Unlike the "Two Counties/One Town" banners, which were sponsored by State Senate grants, the holiday banners were each sponsored by Bellerose businesses. The name of the sponsor is on the bottom of each banner and include such businesses as Mr. Ribbon and Larry's Dry Cleaners - both B.C.C.A. advertisers. Also, Arturo's, Bellerose Deli, Best Ford and others are participants. Please remember to patronize our advertisers and let them know "you saw it here."

### **Holiday Decorations**

Once again, Halloween decorations have set the stage for spectacular Christmas/Chanukah season decorations. Please don't forget that the B.C.C.A. will once again sponsor a competition for outstanding house decorations in our area. In early December our committee will ride through the Bellerose community judging our best displays and cash prizes will be awarded at our January meeting.

Good luck to all.

### **House of Hope Church**

Pastor Schult suggests that it is not too soon to note the following:

**Advent** begins November 28th, a season of preparation for Christmas.

Service of Lessons and Carols - Sunday December 12th, 4:00 pm.  
Neighborhood Christmas Caroling - Sunday Dec. 19th, 3:30 pm.  
Christmas Eve Service - Dec. 24th, 8:00 pm.

**The House of Hope  
Presbyterian Church  
248th Street and 85th Ave.  
David F. Schult, Minister  
84-54 248th Street  
Tel.: 718 347-3120**

**Sunday:  
9:30 AM Church School  
11:00 Morning Worship  
A Nursery is Available**

### **Cease and Desist Cards**

December 15 is the filing deadline for the January version of homes on the Secretary of State's Cease and Desist list. If you haven't already responded to the direct mailings to your house from Senator Padavan and other announcements, we strongly urge you to send in your C&D card. If you can't find one, please contact Community Board 13Q at 718 464-9700 or register on-line at [www.dos.state.ny.us](http://www.dos.state.ny.us).

### **Weekly Recycling Pick Up**

We noticed a lot of recycling bags on the street for a week following Veterans Day. Please remember that if the normal recycling day coincides with a sanitation holiday, there will not be a recycling pick up that week. That occurred for about half of Bellerose on Thursday November 11. Please do not leave recycling out at such times.

### **Leaf Pickup**

We think that the recent initiative by New York City to pick up leaves on certain days for composting. So far there have been two such pickups and the response by Queens residents has been overwhelming. We learned at Community Board meeting that they had to add several more shifts and trucks in order to meet the demand. In

some cases the collectors cited that when they did a block, by the time they were done with the block, homeowners were putting more leaves where they were already picked up.

From what I've seen Bellerose did pretty well. Most leaves were up by Sunday night.

The last pickup this year will be on December 4. Don't forget.

## Directors Needed

by: Richard Hellenbrecht

Don't forget - this will be your last time this century to offer your talent and skills to be a volunteer officer of the B.C.C.A. Our elections are held in December of each year. While we usually have a full Board, we have lost several Board members this year due to a number of reasons. We urgently need the active participation of Bellerose residents to make the B.C.C.A. a success in helping to preserve our lovely town.

We need a new Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and two Directors.

Please think about this important

service to your community and volunteer to help. For the gratification involved, the investment of your time is very little.

Do not be embarrassed or ashamed. No experience is necessary and you will never be required to speak in public unless you want to.

Our Recording Secretary keeps minutes of meetings and may remind the President of action items. The Corresponding Secretary finalizes letters and stores the official files. A Director attends a monthly board meeting and attends one monthly general meeting. Very little time is required. Please call President Hellenbrecht at 343-5397 if you are interested.

## Illegal Conversions

by: Richard Hellenbrecht

I was pleased to report that a local civic president who has been vocal in trying to preserve his neighborhood, has written to City Council in support of legislation intended to increase enforcement efforts against illegal apartment conversions. Nagassar Ramgarib, known as "Ram", is president of the Queens Village Civic Association. Here is part of his letter.

I am President of the Queens Village Civic Association (QVCA) and a member of the Queens Civic Congress. We are not against conversions, renovations and basement apartments, providing these spaces meet all necessary safety, fire, health, zoning and building codes.

"We in Queens Village are desperately trying to preserve the quality of life in our village. This bill is only a small help in that direction, enforcement will hopefully reverse the decay of our beloved Queens Village.

"Twenty years ago I moved to Queens Village because I wanted something better for my children, my wife and myself."

Please help fight illegal conversions.

## BCCA Board of Directors

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### Corresponding Sec'y:

Ann Marie Lyons

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Sebastian Platania ('99)

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George Wolf ('99)

Ken Lyons ('00)

Robert Gluszek ('99)

Vincent C. Kuhner ('00)

### BCCA Feedback Form

December 1999

#### To the BCCA:

I suggest the following article for Action News, or issue to pursue, or general comment:

\_\_\_\_\_.

I suggest the following speaker topic: \_\_\_\_\_.

I suggest the following newsletter topic: \_\_\_\_\_.

We encourage you to leave your name and address: \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

***action news***

Address items to:

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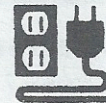
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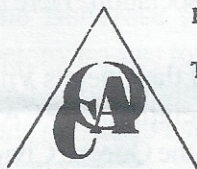
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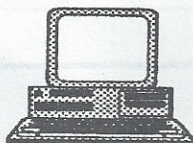
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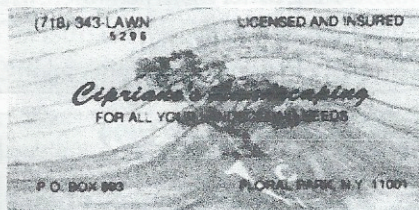
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