bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.

action news



Volume 17 No. 2

February 1991

Mr. Richard Carlan
Heat/Consumers'
Advantage, Inc.
Oil Buying Cooperative
Thursday, February 7 at
8PM
House of Hope Church
Corner 248 St. & 85th
Ave.
Refreshments

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

The unfortunate turn of events in the Persian Gulf is hurting all of us in our own private ways. For the first time in many years war has taken members of our families and neighbors far from home and in harms way. While not everyone agrees with the need or motives to be in the war, we hope all of Bellerose will join in supporting the men and women risking their lives. Please put your flags out everyday until the end of the hostilities and return of our soldiers.

We're pleased to introduce our new officers. Please see inside for all of the 1991 Directors and Board members. With some new blood and a full board we are looking forward to some big, new activities this year. Welcome aboard to Ralph Elbaum and Bruno Santi!

The next three meetings will be very important to Bellerose residents. We hope you will mark you calendars now and be sure to get to the February, March and April meetings.

Meetings - C-POP Intro, Cheap Oil

by: R. C. Hellenbrecht

At our January meeting we were pleased to meet Karen Warren our new C-POP officer covering the Hillside Avenue to Jamaica Avenue, Cross Island to Little Neck Parkway beat. Officer Warren is an experienced officer who briefed us on her duties on this new post. Many of our members told her of some of their most serious concerns and she promised to pay very close

attention to some of these problem spots. Particularly, Officer Warren promised to watch areas around PS 133 (along 248th Street and on 85th Avenue) and near St. Gregory's School on 87th Avenue.

Given the City's critical fiscal problems and its recent decision to postpone the hiring of new cops, we must keep Officer Warren busy and justify her post.

Be sure to report any prob-

lems to the C-POP office at 740-1500. See article inside for info.

The February meeting will feature Mr. Richard Carlan of the Heat/Consumers' Advantage, Inc. Heat is a cooperative oil purchasing program that can save you up to 30 cents PER GALLON of fuel oil you use. These are full service oil companies with automatic delivery and budget payments. If you use oil you MUS'T come and hear.

Police Auxiliary

By R. C. Hellenbrecht

At the January meeting we were visited by Pat Martulis who is responsible for Auxiliary policing at the 105th Precinct. Pat is looking for additional volunteers to join the Auxiliary and help the community through this important program.

The auxiliary officers help the police by filling important, but less dangerous positions, primarily during major public events. They also create an extra visibility on the streets in many areas when their cars are seen patrolling the areas. They are in constant contact with the police and are well trained in observation and control tactics, radio communication techniques, self-defense, first aid and law.

Auxiliary officers candidates must be at least 17 years old, but there is no age limit, they must be in good health and be able to read and write. Those interested who are unable to patrol can be assigned to reception duty at the precinct or similar duties. The intensive training program lasts fifteen weeks. Officers receive their first uniform from the city-later uniforms and summer shirts are on your own.

This is a very worthwhile service. If you can spare one night per week or want additional information please call Pat Matulis at 990-0273.

We'll be following up with Karen Warren to see what security recommendations she may have and to discuss possibilities for neighborhood watch programs. Karen is invited to attend our meetings. We will make a list of members interested in a security inspection.

C-POP

Introduction letter-NYC Police Dept.

The following is exerpted from the introductory letter from the Police Department:

Officers who volunteered for this program did so because we believe that it gives us the opportunity to provide the kind of police services your community needs. Following are some of the duties and responsibilities:

- 1. To regularly meet with residents and business persons within my beat to find out what are the crime and other maintenance problems of greatest concern to the community.
- 2. To work with existing block associations and other civic groups in my beat area on the development of neighborhood crime prevention programs.
- 3. To conduct public education programs on crime prevention geared to the need of the community I serve.
- 4. To conduct inspections of residences within my beat area and make recommendations to improve their security.

- 5. To attend meetings of block associations and other civic groups as a representative of the precinct.
- 6. To coordinate activities with other officers in the development of strategies to deal with the crime and other maintenance problems in the beat area.
- 7. To patrol my beat area in a manner that strengthens the lines of communications between the area residnets and the police department.

The C-POP is in addition to the radio motor patrol and anticrime patrol services already provided. Officer Karen Warren will be working in the neighborhood five days each week and would be happy to meet any of you at any time. Please remember to call 911 to reach police or other services in any emergency. To reach Officer Warren directly, call 740-1500 and leave a message if necessary. Officer Warren will call you back as soon as possible.

Let's do everything we can to welcome our C-POP officer and keep her involved in community problems and issues.

Smoke Detectors

Each year we hear of more and more fires that take lives and destroy homes. Most of these lives could have been saved by operational smoke detectors. Please walk around your homes and check the condition of all smoke detectors. Change the batteries each year on a date that's easy to remember. I'd suggest you do it now and on each January 1st hereafter. We'll try to remind you.

Block Captains

By: R.C. Hellenbrecht

Congratulations, we've recruited several new block captains in the past few weeks. This is the best response we've had in years. Unfortunately, we've also lost more captains recently due to "retirements" so our need is still very strong to get block

captains.

In addition, the changes have left us a little overwhelmed to coordinate new routes and get the entire area covered. Any captains who seem to have overlapping areas, or no assignment, please bear with us a while. The BCCA board will reorganize the block captians lists in the next month or two to make sure we

optimize our block captains.

We also need children old enough to be dependable to deliver *Action News* to about one hundred homes each month for \$6 a month - it only takes about an hour. Please call the Editor if you can volunteer for this - but please be prepared to do this each month.

Holiday Awards

As mentioned previously, we had our ceremony for the winners of the first annual BCCA holiday decoration awards. Five members of the community were presented with beautiful certificates provided by our own Bernie

Wechsler and they were awarded twenty-five dollar checks. Our hope is of course that the twenty-five dollars will go to even better displays next year. We will be promoting the 1991 contest throughout this Fall and will be thinking of new ways to get more involved.

Every one of the winners attended to receive their awards and we were deeply moved that one of the winners happily accepted the award, but refused the cash award and instead made a substantial contribution to the BCCA! This was greatly appreciated and will come in handy.

Crisis in Education

By: M.A. Hellenbrecht

As you know, the education system is being cut tremendously by the City and State of New York. Thanks to lots of pressure and help from our legislature we seem to have narrowly averted this crisis from hitting the schools mid-year, but the problem is far from over.

We need your help. Many of you have read in the Jan. 19 Newsday that your school district, District 26, is number one in the city in measures of educational excellence. This goes a long way to making homes in District 26 more desireable and helps to maintain property values. It may have attracted many of you to this area in the first place.

We are asking you to help keep our schools excellent by signing the form and returning it to *The Editor* (see bottom page 5), bring it to P.S.133 or our February meeting.

Remember your loved ones on February 14!



Clip here and Mail today!

Dear Legislator:

As a concerned resident of Bellerose in Community School District 26 Queens, I feel the City of NY should rank Education a top priority along with Police and Fire. Please do all possible to assure the financial future of education in New York City.

Please Print Clearly: NAME:	alizad in the easten Queens area immediately additional bappan agest information
ADDRESS:	So latthese sex attacks have a solving this
CITY:	STATE: NY
SIGNATURE:	escriptions of the attacker have

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Warning!

By: R. C. Hellenbrecht

The Captain asked the C-POP officers to call each of the civic leaders together last Thursday evening to pass an important message about a pattern of crimes that had just been detected that day. The Captain asked each of the civic groups to notify their members to be particularly cautious and watchful until they can take care of the problem.

Since last July there has been a string of assaults against young women walking alone in the evening hours. These attacks have occurred over three precincts and in Nassau, so it wasn't detected immediately as a pattern, but they are now concerned that it is localized in the easten Queens area and it will happen again.

So far these sex attacks have involved girls between 14 and 16 years old walking in dark areas between 8 PM and 2 AM. The descriptions of the attacker have

varied. The man is said to be between 25 and 30 years old, short brown hair, round face, around 5'-8" tall and 160 pounds, with a light complexion. He is not reported to use a car. He walks up to his victim from behind and uses a gun and takes them into an alley or dark area where the attack occurs.

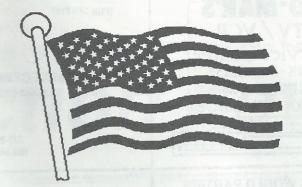
The reported attacks in this area have been near the Silver Moon Diner on Union Turnpike and on Langdale Avenue.

Please be sure to have your young girls always walk in groups, avoid dark areas at night and be particularly watchful. Don't let them be distracted by Walkmen or other such devices. Make sure also that all such crimes or attempted crimes are reported immediately to your precinct. Any information can be helpful in solving this crime - but most importantly, let's not let it happen again. Let your kids know to be on guard.

Flags Out

I don't have to remind anyone that we're involved in a war in the Persian Gulf that may prove to be very costly, both in terms of lives and money. Whatever the merits or rationale of our involvement over there, this is a time for all of us to band together and show our support for the troops. Its really impressive to ride through some neighborhoods and see flags out. But Bellerose is way behind. Please put your flags out every day until the war is over.





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