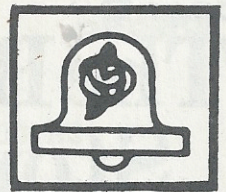


bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.

1935-1985



action news

VOLUME 11 NO. 1

JANUARY

1985

DECEMBER MEETING

The business meeting of the BCCA was held on Thursday, Dec. 6, 1984. The meeting was opened at 8:15 P.M. by our President, Richard Hellenbrecht. Our guest speaker was Mr. Tom Kennedy. The topic was the shelter for the homeless at Creedmore Hospital. Mr. Kennedy stated there are 50,000 homeless people in N.Y. and 20,000 of these are in N.Y. City. Mayor Koch signed a decree stating that N.Y. City must house its homeless people. Creedmore was chosen because there were unused buildings and no new construction would be required. There are 200 homeless men in the East Wing, operated by N.Y.C. and 196 men in need of psychiatric care are housed in the West Wing operated by Catholic Charities. Mr. Kennedy is aware of the problems that this shelter has on the community. He asked that if any of our citizens does encounter problems with these people in their neighborhood to make use of the special hot line phone number - 468-4301.

Old Business

A motion was made to contribute \$200 to the House of Hope Church as a contribution for the generous use of their

meeting room by the BCCA. The vote was unanimous. There were four auto-thefts in our sector during October. Some house burglaries were reported. Our residents are urged to take precautionary steps to avoid these thefts.

The issue of having the Parks Dept. tear down the Park House at P.S. 133 has been tabled until a committee can study this matter and present the facts to Community Planning Board 13 in January 1985.

New Business

The large salt pile that was located near Union Turnpike on Creedmore property has been moved to Hillside Ave. because salt was leaking into the water table at Union Tpke.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The following is a list of Officers and Board members elected at the meeting.

Pres. - Richard Hellenbrecht
Vice Pres. - Peter Condon
Corresponding Sec'y. - Lorraine Anzalone
Recording Sec'y - John Reh

Board of Directors

Robert Costagliola
George Sharp
Bernard Wechsler
George Wolf

We were unable to fill the position of Treasurer. Some one out of our 1,250 families in our boundaries must have some interest in helping to keep our civic association viable. No experience is necessary. Only a few hours work is required and the salary is pride in keeping Bellerose a beautiful neighborhood to live in. We ask someone to please volunteer.

Beginning with this issue, we will feature articles pertaining to Bellerose in the past fifty years, as we celebrate our anniversary as a Civic association. In this issue, read The BELLEROSE STORY.

Notice

THE NEXT MEETING

THURSDAY

Jan. 10, 1985

AT/ 8:00 P.M.

Swearing in of newly elected officers

HOUSE OF HOPE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Corner of 248th St &
85th Avenue

The Bellerose Story

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 Bella. 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. The 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."

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.

PARK HOUSE

Community involvement can bring about improvements. Several residents of 250th Street recently got together and spent a Sunday painting our Park House. The toughest part of the job was to get the City Parks Dept. to chip in the paint. After several weeks of begging, the paint was left on a doorstep.

We can again share a sense of pride in seeing the Park House as we had known it for years. Thank you gentlemen of 250th St.

CREEDMORE MEN'S SHELTER

Please remember to use the Hotline number - 468-4301 - whenever you witness any problems involving an apparent shelter resident. We must create a record of any such events and the log over two months reflects only 7 calls. We've been told, however, that the response time has been excellent for any calls.

If you do witness a problem but are not near a phone, get a description of the person involved, the approximate time and call later.



THERE IS A LAW !

An Open letter to those scofflaws who disregard the pooper scoop law. It has been brought to the Civic Association attention that people who walk their dogs on islands at Little Neck Parkway are not picking up after their dogs. I would like to remind them that the fine is \$50 for the first offense.

You are the ones who need the training, not the dogs. We will be sending a candid camera person in an unmarked vehicle to take pictures and turn them over to the Sanitation Department. This one picture you don't want to be in.

LIBRARY NEWS

The Teen Book Discussion group will meet Thursday, Jan. 10, 1985 at 3:45 p.m. to discuss the book A Shadow Like a Leopard by Myron Levoy. Copies are available at the library.

The Adult Book Discussion group will meet, Thursday, Jan. 17, 1985 at 10:30 a.m. The book for discussion is Son of the Revolution by Liang Heng and Judith Shapiro. Critics acclaimed this, "One of the richest and most remarkable documents yet to come out of China."

A large variety of cassettes are now available for one week loan. You'll find children's stories, Broadway shows, operas, pop and rock for entertainment. Come in and make your selection from our new display cabinets. There are also steno dictation and language courses for regular twenty-eight day loan.

Tax aides, under the auspices of the AARP, will be in the library on Thursday afternoons beginning the first week in February. Those needing individual help making out their tax forms should take advantage of these knowledgeable volunteers.

BLOCK BUDDIES

With a generally rising crime rate in our area, it makes good sense to protect the children of our neighborhood. Many areas have established a "block buddie" program where certain homes are identified for children to seek help if they run into trouble on the way home from school or elsewhere in the neighborhood. We have a large population of retired persons and parents who are normally home during the day. I would like to begin to identify those of you who would be willing to open your doors to help our youngsters. A committee will be formed to interview the candidate buddies, make sure that only approved homes display the I.D. decal and monitor the program overall. If you are interested please call Pete Condon at 347-6825.



bellerose commonwealth
civic association, inc.

action news

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EXCEPT JULY and AUGUST**

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Managing Editor

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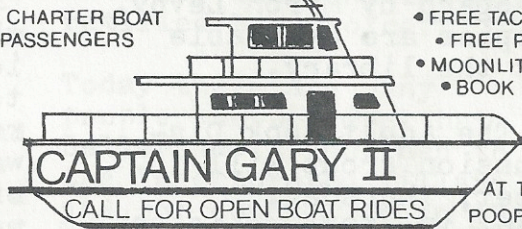
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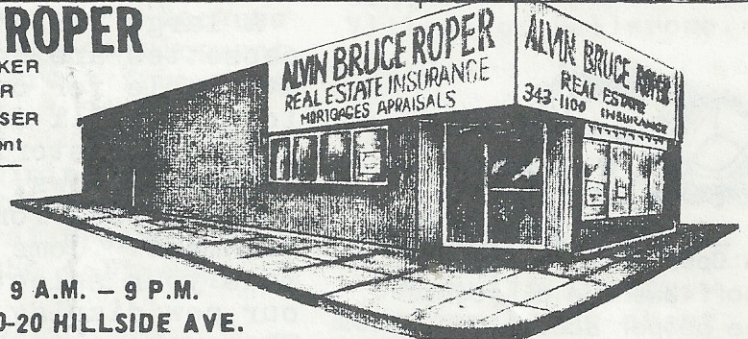
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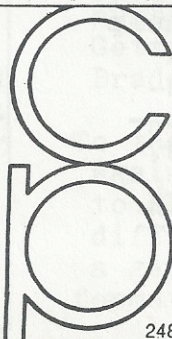
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