bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.

action news



Volume 15 No.6

June 1989

Fire Department Speaker
on safety at home
also
June is Block Captains
Appreciation Month
Special door prizes
refreshments
House of Hope Church
June 1 at 8 p.m.

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

President's Gavel

A huge round of applause for all of you who came down to help clean the park!

This month we recognize the hard work of our Block Captains who have given freely of their time and energy to keep the news flowing about civic activities. We will have a special cake in honor of the occasion and we will raffle off a few door prizes so please come down.

Also, we will have a speaker from the fire department with some important tips and rules.

I hope to have a follow up report on the Bellerose Zoning Plan and our efforts on the Non-Solicitation order we've included for the past two months.

This is our last issue until September. Please have a happy and safe summer. We look forward to seeing you all again right after Labor Day.

Jean Biancaniello

Commonwealth Construction

By: Rich Hellenbrecht

Late this spring construction will begin on the total reconstruction of Commonwealth Boulevard, 248th Street (from 86th Avenue to 87th Drive) and several streets west of the Cross Island Parkway.

We'd like to remind any of you affected by this project that your sidewalks, curbs and driveways will be replaced by the contractor unless they are in excellent condition and meet grade specifications. Under legislation passed as a result of problems with a similar contract east of Littleneck Parkway, homeowners will be billed for sidewalks at a standard amount set by the City based on borough wide actual concrete costs. If you have a new sidewalk in the reconstruction area you should take a few actions to protect yourself:

1. Immediately photograph your sidewalks, curbs, walkways

and driveways. Be sure there is a date on the photos. Cover several different angles and use close-ups to demonstrate the actual condition.

2. Be sure to have your paid receipts for the concrete work available, clearly showing the date work was completed.

3. When work begins in your area ask to see the Resident Engineer. Be assertive, point out your new sidewalk and get his assurance that your sidewalk will

seeConstruction page 2

Construction from page 1

not need replacement. Get it in writing if you can. Keep a record of whom you spoke to, when and what was said: you may need it later.

There are strict rules about

the "legal grade" of sidewalks. The original height of you sidewalk may not be the legal grade. The city will bill you if your current sidewalk is not built precisely to legal grade.

Please be sure that ANY

new sidewalk work you contract for is installed according to the legal grade. Make sure this is specified on your written contract and give the contractor a plot plan with your legal grade.

1-2-3 Strikes, You're Out!

By: Jean Biancaniello

Con Edison, under their Youth Oriented Program this year, will make tickets available to the New York Yankee Baseball games.

Each pass available will admit one adult over 21 and 5 children between the ages of 8 to

16. The tickets are free of charge to adults who can get five youngsters, but I have been advised that due to the limited amount of tickets to a few games in June and July, tickets will be issued on a first come, first served basis so you are urged to apply as soon as possible.

Please forward your name and the children's names in writing to me. You will then be contacted about the games available for this season.

Our thanks to Con Edison for taking the opportunity for thinking of our children and a special thanks to James Tam for bringing this to my attention. Anyone with knowledge of similar offers, please be sure to let us know.

Send information to: Ms. J. Biancaniello 84-21 249th Street Bellerose, NY 11426

Park Clean-up

By: Rich Hellenbrecht

The Bellerose Playground was spruced up once again by members and friends of the Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association. Dozens of neighbors of all ages came down and wielded paint brushes, hammers, rakes and brooms to bring the park up to snuff for the summer.

We are very proud of the people who turned out early in the morning to make our playground beautiful. The Parks and Police Departments were very helpful and came down to check on progress. Parks provided "WE CARE" hats and tee-shirts.

You'll now see a fresh coat of paint on the see-saws and benches and Parks Dept. recently painted the park house. I understand some of the paint accidentally ended up where it didn't belong, but no harm done (we hope!)

Our bike registration was a spectacular success this year.

A special thanks to all who helped out. Next month we'll try to list everyone appearing on our sign-in sheet.

Water Rules

By: Rich Hellenbrecht

The May meeting featured a speaker from the New York City Department of Environmental Conservation to discuss the drought conditions experienced this spring by New York and the vicinity. This speaker was particularly effective in describing the drought effects and the need for prompt and severe conservation measures. As you

know the significant rainfall since early May has reduced the seriousness of the situation but there is never an excuse to squander this precious resource.

Please be sure to conserve water as much as possible and keep yourself posted on any restrictions that may be placed in effect. The fines are now more severe than ever before, so don't get yourself a \$500 citation.

In June we've invited a

representative of the New York City Fire to discuss fire prevention, evacuation procedures and other important aspects of fire safety. You will recall that our own Ross Fertitta, a retired Battalion Chief, prepared a two part series on fire facts and fire safety which continues inside this issue. Please be sure to read the final installment of Ross's article on page 3.

Bellerose Library News

ADULT PROGRAMS

Once-a-month Book Sale: Monday, June 26th from 1 to 7:30 p.m. Adult, Young Adult and Juvenile hardcover and paperbacks available.

Camera Club: Meets Saturday June 10th and 17th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

YOUNG ADULT PRO-GRAMS

Chess Club meets Thursday nights June 1,8,15,22 and 28 from 6 to 8 p.m. Players of all ages and abilities are welcome. No entry fee. Round Robin and Swiss-Quads are available. Bring your own clock and board/pieces. New members must play in the round robin first. For information call: Mike Fricano, Monday to Friday

8 to 10 p.m. at 718-224-8004. CHILDREN'S PRO-

GRAMS

Picture Book Hours: 3 1/2 to 5 year olds, Tuesdays, June 6,13,16 and 20 at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Pre-registration required.

Films for Toddlers: for 2 - 3 year olds, Wednesdays, June 7,14,21, and 28 at 10:30 a.m. Pre-registration is required.

Arts & Crafts: For schoolage children will be Friday June 16 at 3:30 p.m. Pre-registration required.

We are asking members of the community to keep their Library attractive and free of graffiti and other forms of vandalism. Please show support for your Library by reporting unusual activities, especially during times we are closed.

Fires - Part 2

by: Ross F. Fertitta N.Y.F.D., Ret. B.C.

A considerable proportion of fire casualties occurs in cases where occupants of buildings are unaware of a fire until it is too late to escape, particularly when people are sleeping and fire is not discovered until it has reached major proportions. Therefore, smoke/fire alarm devices are essential in the home, with a continued battery inspection plan.

Fires confined to clothing are responsible for many painful and often disfiguring and fatal burns. The answer to the wearing apparel burn problem lies in teaching the need for care to prevent ignition, selection of the fabric of lowest flammability when there is a choice and the use of garments that are free from dangerous design features such as kimono type sleeves that increase the possibility of ignition. Keep in mind that cotton material is highly combustible, especially near the kitchen stove

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