

bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.

# action news



Volume 19 No. 6

JUNE 1993

**June is Block Captain  
Appreciation Month.  
Special refreshments  
A Sanitation Rep will  
Speak about  
Recycling  
House of Hope Church  
Cor. 248th Street & 85 Ave.  
June 3 at 8 PM  
Door Prizes  
See Hazardous Waste  
Disposal, Page 3**

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

## The Gavel

Its time to get ready for the summer and give thanks to our block captains who help out so much during the year. As you know there will be no Action News until September. On behalf of the Board and members of the BCCA I'd like to wish you all a great summer.

This issue features the second installment of student essays, these from PS133Q. I also want to thank those folks who stopped by the triangle in mid-May to clean up that little area. If you pass by I'm sure you'll notice a tremendous improvement.

Special thanks to House of Hope Church which donated 20 plants and to Pat Pearson for her planning. The following neighbors helped out: Mike, Pat, Shawn and Matthew Callaghan, Willie and Geraldine Brand, Debbie and Emmie Lee, Doris and Brandon Wilshire, Michael and Karen Reilly and Melissa Hellenbrecht. Board members active were: Frank Olton, Bernie Wechsler, Melanie Ngai, Lorraine Anzalone and Rich Hellenbrecht. (Little children are underlined.)

## PS133Q Essays

By: Frank T. Olton

Congratulations to Aarti Gadkar and Joseph Fuente, graduating 5th graders at PS 133Q. Their essays were selected as the best submissions in our competition, on the subject: "How to Get More People Involved in Improving Bellerose." Both essays are printed in this issue.

As was the case with St. Gregory's, the number of excel-

lent submissions made it very difficult to judge which ones we thought to be the best. We offer our thanks to all the students who expressed their ideas to us.

Students from both schools had many common concerns: after-school centers, the environment, graffiti, police, the elderly, community clean-up efforts and adults who don't clean up after their dogs, among others. In many cases, some versions of what they recommend to increase commu-

nity involvement does in fact already exist, and what is needed may often be greater participation.

Again, congratulations to Joseph and Aartie, as well as to Kristin Berka and Douglas Speigel, from St. Gregory's, whose essays were published in Action News last month. All four will receive a \$50 Savings Bond from the BCCA in appreciation for their efforts in expressing their ideas to us.



## PS 133Q Essay Winners

By: Joseph Dela Fuente

To improve life in Belle-rose we need to find solutions to our problems to improve our lives. All people must learn to help one another to make Belle-rose a cleaner place. We can get people involved by going to their homes and speaking with them and asking them to please get involved. Sometimes people are shy and this will help them come forward.

We could have a Bellerose newspaper and run a special membership drive to get people involved to help and if you join you get a free T-shirt that says "Please Get Involved in Helping Bellerose."

Some teenagers and young adults form gangs and do destructive things like spraying paint on tunnels, handball courts. They stay late at night in school yards or on the streets making loud noises, drinking beer, smoking cigarettes and doing drugs.

People who live around the area are being disturbed and cannot get enough sleep. They are also afraid that gang members might throw rocks at the houses. Perhaps young adults and teenagers should be encouraged to participate in community activities like sports, helping old people living alone so they have something to do when they are out of school.

We should have parents on patrol each day to patrol our neighborhood. This would protect homes from being robbed.

We should also have trash cans every two or three blocks so no one needs to litter. All people must learn to stop polluting and be responsible for their community. Perhaps we should start a cleaning program that could be a contest. The cleanest block could win a prize.

As a young boy, I can help the elderly in the community by doing errands and getting groceries for them when they are sick. I

can also help them cross the street or help them with some housework. I'll try to organize my friends and other young adults and teenagers to do the same thing.

People should be encouraged to attend public meetings so they can find out the different problems in the community and so they can talk about how to solve the problems. Parents, teachers, principal, church members should contribute in educating kids to be better kids. There should be a policeman and policewoman around Bellerose, especially at night. Every adult person in Bellerose should keep a watchful eye on their neighborhood this will help everyone make a better community.

Its easy to stay at home and not care. If we get out, get organized and help each other, we can keep Bellerose a wonderful community.

By: Aarti Gadkar

Bellerose is an important community. We have to keep it safe and clean. In order to improve Bellerose we all have to work together. We could send out fliers convincing people to come to a meeting to help Belle-rose. We could try to find solutions to our problems.

Our community schools could start an after school program for kids. The program would give the kids something to do after school instead of hanging out on the street. Parents who are working might also be willing to become involved, so they wouldn't need to worry about their kids. In order to keep teen-

agers off the streets, we could have them volunteer to supervise the kids at the program.

We could also encourage kids to pick up garbage off the streets. When they do, their parents or grandparents could reward them by giving them paper money worth five or ten cents. The end of the month, adults would count the money and see which child has the most. The child with the most money would receive a prize.

Neighbors in our community could also start a community clean up crew. To get people involved we can have a community meeting about starting a clean up crew. We could call people,

send fliers, or make posters. Once we have different groups clean at different times. The crew would pick a day every two weeks, walk around our neighborhood and collect trash. The goal would be to see how many pieces of trash they could pick up each month. When they reach their goal, members of the crew could have a party. A lot of my neighbors are elderly. We could help them by performing good & helpful deeds. All the community children could start a club on helping the elderly. We could send out fliers or posters explaining the club. A president could record who helps

See Essay Page 3



the elderly the most. The child who helps the most could get a prize from the Civic Association once a year. The club could schedule a time to go over to our neighbor's houses to help with things like gardening, raking, walking dogs, mowing lawns and watering plants. The elderly people would pay the kids a fair amount.

Adults could start a class for kids called "Be Safe." They could teach the kids how to avoid drugs and alcohol. They would also teach kids to stay away from strangers, guns and other harmful weapons. The class would be made up of different levels. Those who are ready to graduate could take a test on the class. If they pass, they'll graduate.

If we work together to fight drugs, guns, crime and pollution we can live longer, happier lives. We should help family members, neighbors and friends fight it too. What we do for Bellerose today, will make it better or tomorrow.

## Sanitation Issues

Don't forget, the Department of Sanitation now picks up bulk items on the second Thursday of each week. Up to three items will be picked up and no reservations are required.

Please come to our June meeting a representative from Sanitation will discuss recycling.

A one-day-only **Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day** has been set for June 13 from 8AM to 4PM. The collection location is at Queensboro Community College main parking lot at 56th Ave. betw. Cloverdale and Springfield Blvd. This is your chance to get rid of old paint cans, aerosols, pesticides, motor oil, batteries, toxic cleaners, etc.

This disposal is safe and free. Its also environmentally safe. Paint companies, for instance, will collect and donate paint for anti-graffiti and other community projects. Be sure to take advantage of this opportunity! It may not happen again. Each household can bring up to one hundred gallons.

Please recycle during the summer. Dates are May 27/29, June 10/12 and 24/26, July 8,10 and 22/24, August 5/7 and 19/20.

## Community Column

I'm sure many of you remember Poit's Deli on Little Neck Parkway. Its now changed hands, but Helen and Peter Poit still live in Bellerose.

We've recently learned that their daughter Cindy, who lived with them in Bellerose for 25 years, passed away of cancer this past February. Cindy, 32 years old, was married to Michael Bernstein and lived in Massapequa. Mike and Cindy had two daughters, Elyse 6 and Monique 4. Our sincere condolences to the Poits and Bernsteins.

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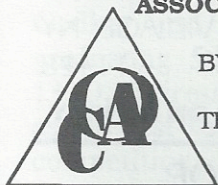
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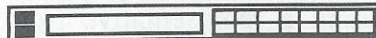
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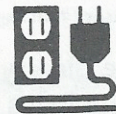
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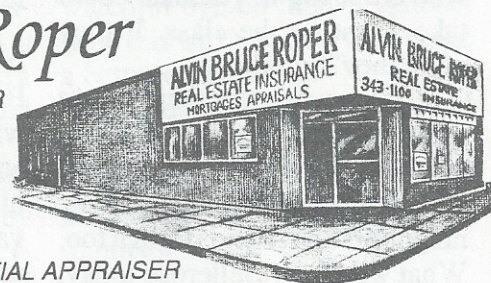
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