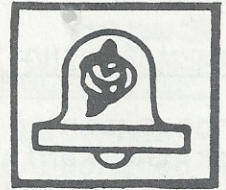


bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.

1935-1985



# action news

VOLUME 11 NO. 3

MARCH

1985

## ANNUAL BELLEROSE REASSESSMENT 1985

Homeowners in Belle-rose received their annual official notice from the Bureau of Real Property Assessment on the day after the BCCA monthly meeting in February.

Starting in 1982, the City of N.Y. began re-assessing all homeowners with a 6% annual increase and will not stop until they reach the legal limit of not more than 20% increase over a 5 year period.

The books of the Tentative Assessment Roll are available for inspection at 90-25 Sutphin Blvd. The office is open until 10 p.m. on Tuesdays, through March 15. To fight the increase, the homeowner has to fill out an application for correction of tentative assessed valuation. After the Tax Commissioner, with or without a personal hearing, turns you down and does not give you the yellow form, Offer of Reduction, you must go to the SCAR procedure.

For a refundable (if you win) fee of \$25 you file a petition for Small Claims Assessment Review. The records show that while only a few homeowners file for the SCAR informal hear-

ing, almost every homeowner wins and the increase is rescinded.

Come to the next BCCA meeting on Thursday, March 7th, and let your neighbors know how you feel about these 6% tax increases every year.

Charles J. Theophil

## CHILDREN'S SAFETY

We live in a fine community, but Crime is everywhere. Several recent incidents, both on our streets and at the Cross Island tunnel, have prompted this article.

We know it has been said before, but it bears repeating: "Parents, keep an extra eye on your children." Do not let your children walk alone especially at night. Keep a close watch at home as well. An undesirable could approach your child in your own backyard. Make youngsters aware not to talk to strangers. Parents, open your children's eyes to the possible danger situation around them.

If you see, or are involved in an incident, DON'T CLOSE YOUR EYES! Report it to our 105th Precinct -- 740-0600. They cannot furnish protection if they are unaware of the existing trouble.

This is our Community. It is up to us to keep it safe. Our children can be harmed if we don't help them!

## THE GRAND JURY SYSTEM

The newspapers have recently been reporting that there is a faction proposing to discontinue the grand jury system in favor of having judges determine trial worthiness of pending arrests. The Eastern Queens Civic Council has decided to take a stand on this matter and asked for the views of its member associations. Anyone having commitments either way, please come to the March meeting or call Jim Delaney at 347-6950.

## CORRECTION

Dept. of Sanitation Bulk Pickup number should be:

641-8049

## Notice

### THE NEXT MEETING

THURSDAY

MARCH 7, 1985

AT/ 8:00 P.M.

STEVE FONG

H&R BLOCK

HOUSE OF HOPE  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

Corner of 248th St &  
85th Avenue



COMMEMORATING BELLEROSE

Once again, I'd like to thank the Kunis family for sharing their memories of living in Bellerose over the past four decades. Here is another installment of their experiences. We have some additional articles to be published in future additions but we'd be delighted to hear from more of you.

Living in Bellerose -  
cont'd by Rena Garter  
Kunis.....

We couldn't have afforded a car if there had been cars to buy. Holding my three-year-old by the hand, I pushed the carriage containing the new baby to the nearest grocery, whose stock and prices resembled today's supermarket facilities as little as a horse and wagon resemble a jet plane. As we learned our way around, we discovered an A&P a few blocks farther on, and a privately-owned supermarket where we could charge our purchases and pay for them monthly as my husband's check came.

When Spring arrived that first year, we invited sundry relatives to admire our new home. My uncle, the financial wizard of the family, looked it over and commented, "What kind of time is this to buy a house? In a few months they'll be building homes with solar heating and all kinds of modern improvements." Then he examined the three bedrooms, all with cross ventilation, (that was

important before the days of ubiquitous air conditioning), the living room, the dining room and kitchen, the basement, the storage attic--all of which we had thought so spacious--and added, "This is a doll house. How can you live in such a tiny place?"

Despite all those discouraging experiences, we loved our house. We planted daffodil and tulip bulbs, most of which the squirrels ate before they had a chance to bloom. Even that didn't faze us. If squirrels could live free here, it must be a good place to raise children. We rejoiced at the golden forsythia, the magnolia blossoms, the dogwood, the crabapple blossoms which greeted the Spring, and the roses of all varieties that bloomed from June all through summer. In the Fall, the asters and zinnias we had planted so optimistically really did bloom, in a profusion of colors. And when Winter came again, the snow reflected myriad holiday lights which blossomed like flowers throughout the neighborhood.

A few months after we had taken possession of our new abode, a real estate agent arrived at our front door with an offer of \$17,500 for our home. Real estate values were soaring. A 70% profit on our investment was appealing, but we were wise enough to realize that if we were to accept, we'd have to pay still more for suitable living quarters.

At last count, houses in our neighborhood are going for over \$125,000. We're still not selling.

....to be cont'd.

LIBRARY NEWS

Thursday, March 21st

At 10:30 a.m. the Adult Book Discussion group will re-do Liang Heng and Judith Shapiro's SON OF THE REVOLUTION which was previously scheduled during a January snow storm. This is an extraordinary biography of what it was like to grow up during the turbulent years of Communist China's political and cultural upheavals.

At 7 p.m. Mrs. Dorothea Kurzwil will present a special slide program and lecture based on her recent trip to China. Mrs. Kurzwil does a professional job presenting her pictures, views and insights as those who have already enjoyed her presentation can attest.

Volunteers wanted

If you have a talent or a skill which you would like to share with others, please come into the library or call 343-0303 and let us help you work out a program.

Income Tax Assistance

Through the auspices of the A.A.R.P., trained volunteers will be at the Bellerose Library every Thursday afternoon from 1-5 p.m. to give individual help with income tax problems.



### Chess Club

Every Sat. at 3 p.m. Chess players are meeting at the library to play and learn.

### Teen Book Discussion

Jeanetter Eyerly's THE SEEING SUMMER is the book for the Friday, March 15th discussion at 3:45 p.m. Copies of

this kidnapping thriller are now available at the Bellerose Branch.

### Pre-school films

Cartoons and fun films are shown every Friday afternoon at 3:30 p.m. for children 3½ to 6 years of age. No reservation needed.

### WOODCARVING

The Greater New York Chapter of the National Woodcarvers Assn. is meeting every third Tuesday of the month in the basement of the House of Hope Church for their activities.

Members are creating wonderful pieces of art and participate in various expositions. They are also interested in recruiting new members giving them instructions in the different techniques of the wonderful Art of Woodcarving.

Membership is \$10/yr. An additional \$5/yr. entitles the member to special Magazines illustrating the techniques and projects as suggested by the National Woodcarving Assn.

If anyone is interested please call Joe Lamia - 352-8915.

Otto Ernst

### NON SOLICITATION ORDER

As we've reported many times before, our area has been covered by a non-solicitation order for the past twelve years. This means that Real Estate Brokers or agents are banned from soliciting the sale of houses or apartment rental in any way; whether by advertisement, personal call or visit. This order by the Secretary of State was issued in 1973 to prevent any rapid shift in population that may radically change the structure and economic fibre of various neighborhoods in the city.

Please be vigilant about any solicitation, keep a copy of any ad or business card and call Richard Hellenbrecht at 343-5397 to report any such illegal activity. The Secretary of State has recently resolved one case as reported last year and I was called upon to testify recently regarding a second case involving Pennysaver ads. I have reported another broker for putting business cards in mail boxes. These activities leave the impression on some homeowners that our neighborhood is weakening. I am very proud to say to anyone that I live in Bellerose. We have a strong, beautiful neighborhood: Let's all fight to keep it that way.

Individuals interested in privately selling or buying houses are invited to attend our meetings or to call Vice President Pete Condon at 347-6825.

### TOTAL PATROL CONCEPT

The 105th Pct. has recently incorporated a foot patrol program covering certain neighborhood areas. The object of the program is to get the patrol officers to be closer to the community. By actually visiting with merchants and meeting residents they can be more aware of problems and help their constituents make necessary contacts with city departments. Sgt. Wittik is in charge of the patrol and their offices can be reached 24 hours a day by a special number -- 740-1500.

The feedback on the program so far has been very encouraging. While the program is only a pilot and there are currently no patrols in our zone, we hope that they can be expanded in the future by additional officers and increasing the size of each beat as the cops become more familiar with the store owners and residents.

### FAMILY PORTRAITS

### EXECUTIVE PORTRAITS

Schools  
Commercial  
Publicity



Weddings  
Bar Mitzvahs  
Bas Mitzvahs

CHARLES ANNUNZIATO — 516-328-2497

Sebastian Platania  
Managing Editor

Address news items to:

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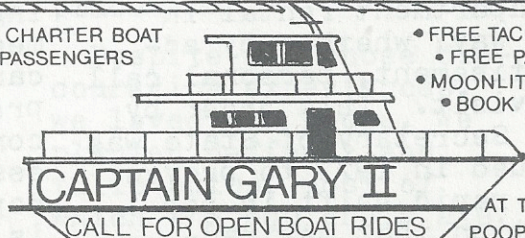
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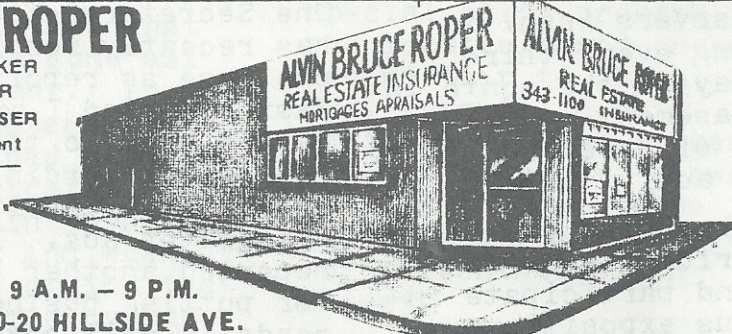
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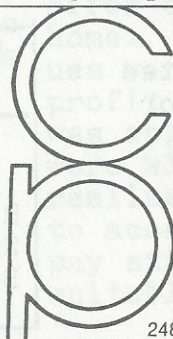


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