

bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.

action news



Volume 19 No. 3

MARCH 1993

Security Meeting
105 Pct Home Security
Officer and Auxiliary
Recruiter
March 4, 1993 At 8pm
House of Hope Church
Corner 248th Street
at 85th Avenue
Refreshments will
be served

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

Special
Announcement
Fingerprinting at
PS133
April 17
10AM to 2PM

Graffiti, What's Next

Once again our primary thoroughfare, Hillside Avenue, has been besieged by graffiti-ists. These vandals have again ruined what many of us worked so hard on last year. This is truly frustrating, demoralizing and depressing.

Graffiti has been a problem throughout Queens, but we thought we had licked it. After many neighbors gave up a Saturday scrubbing everything in sight,

our stores remained clean for at least six months. Now, in the middle of the winter when one would least expect it, almost all of the graffiti has returned.

Graffiti is not just a social unpleasantry, it is the first step toward a general breakdown in respect for authority and the law. A graffiti-ist is saying "I don't give a damn about you, your property or your laws." His next steps are bigger crimes, like mugging,

auto theft or car jacking - it's only a small transition to getting a gun and then using it.

This Sunday's Newsday had an article on how our precinct, the 105, experienced a remarkable surge in the murder rate during 1992. Homicides went from 16 in 1991 to 47 in 1992 - one of the few precincts in the City that reported an increase. The paper pinned this increase on increased drug use and availability of guns.

See Page 3

Dear Senator Padavan,

Please alert the Transportation Commissioner about the pothole at —

(Please check the appropriate box)

☐ I have called the "pothole" office

☐ I have not called

Date of call _____

_____ (fold) _____

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Zip _____
(please print)

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Senator Frank Padavan
89-39 Gettysburg Street
Bellerose, NY 11426

Attention: Pothole Complaints

(To mail, fold this side out. No envelope is needed.)

Padavan's Pothole Patrol

Senator Padavan recently sent a special report reminding us (as if we needed reminding) that this time of year New York City's "patented potholes" are "lurking out there, waiting to strike when you're least prepared."

In order to report a pothole, and maybe save a heavy repair bill for someone, cut out and

mail the above notification. This form will help the Senator track the complaint and verify the repair.

The Department of Transportation Pothole complaint number for Queens is (718)520-3311 between 8:30AM and 4PM. Call first, then use the form.

House of Hope News

Please mark your calendars for House of Hope's Bid-N-Raffle event, taking place on Saturday March 27 from 1PM to 4PM. Admission to the Bid-N-Raffle is just \$3 for adults and \$1 for children, and this includes 10 raffle tickets. The fun event will feature door prizes, sweepstakes and plenty of refreshments. The church is located at 85th Avenue and 248th Street.

From Page 1

As corny as this sounds, I firmly believe there is a strong correlation to committing a crime, getting away with it then doing more serious crime.

Graffiti has a serious effect on adults. Frequently adults feel "well if no one else cares about how the neighborhood looks, why not let my sidewalk crack or drop my old refrigerator on the old railroad spur at Commonwealth. Hey, why not sell now while the getting's good."

Parents and neighbors, we cannot let graffiti get the better of our town and our youth. We must treat graffiti as the serious crime that it is. We must fight and fight hard.

One immediate step is to watch for signs of vandalism on

children, like coming in very late, signs of paint on hands or clothing, spray cans around the house, and graffiti "tags" on school books. All residents should immediately report graffiti crimes in progress. Call 911 if you see vandalism in progress. The Borough President has targeted graffiti as a top priority urging us all to take back our communities. BP Shulman urges us to call (212)374-5914 or 5719 to report the description of vandals and location of graffiti. In calling this number you do not have to give your name!

Please treat this crime as more than just the nuisance that it is. If we all want to be proud of our neighborhood as we were, we must take control and stop this mess.

Queen's Children's Theater

You've read here about Bellerose resident Ben Finn and his Queen's Children's Theater, located in the Marketplace Mall on Union Turnpike.

An article was featured in NY Newsday's January 31 Outings article. Staffed by professional actors, the theater, according to Newsday, "is rapidly becoming a notable addition to quality theater in Queens".

The current production "Ride with me to Freedom" ends on March 7. The price is only \$5 per adult and \$6 per child. Performances are Saturdays and Sundays at 1PM, with a grand performance on Fridays at 7PM.

It is right in our own backyard and a real bargain. The shows are geared for children and great for parties - but adults will have a ball too. For additional information call 343-1052.

Post Office Nightmares

One of our members reported a major problem with our postal services. A letter, addressed to Bellerose P.O. station manager was sent by four Bellerose residents on 253rd Street.

The letter states that postal staff admitted that for the second time in three months mail had been stolen. This is very serious because social security checks, and important per-

sonal documents of all sorts are delivered by mail. We must be ensured that every conceivable precaution is made to get the mail to its destination.

The letter also reported that after years of regular before noon deliveries, mail is now delivered late in the day, often after dark when many of our senior citizens are reluctant to open their doors.

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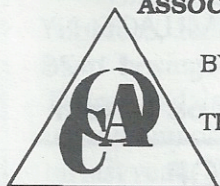
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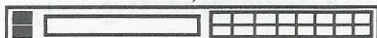
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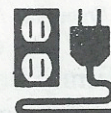
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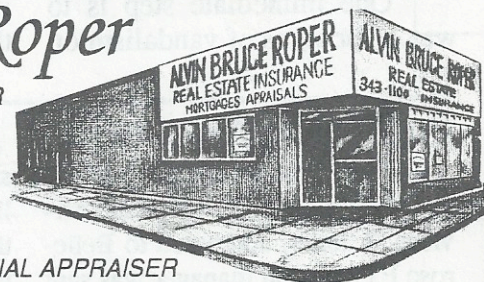
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