



# action news

Volume 26, Issue 3

March 2000

## Next Meeting

Senator Frank Padavan

\*\*\*

Induction of Officers

\*\*\*

March 2, 2000

8:00 PM

Refreshments

House of Hope Church

Cor. 248th St. & 85th Ave.

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

We hope you  
like our new  
look!

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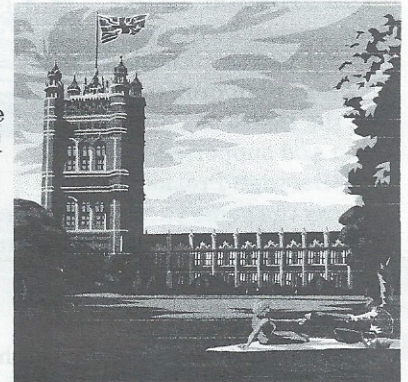
## Creedmoor School Plan Opposed At Rally on March 26

Local civics oppose the current plan of placing three schools for 2,500 students on ten acres of surplus Creedmoor Psychiatric Center property. The potential community impact of this plan can be devastating for Glen Oaks and Bellerose. Most importantly, the children for whom the schools are intended will be ill served by the school plan as presently constituted. The Queens Civic Congress (QCC) is hosting a rally against the school plan at Martin Van Buren High School on March 26 for 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Please mark your calendar and come down.

**History:** Over the last several years, the BCCA and other local civic asso-

ciations under the auspices of the QCC, have met with Borough President Shulman, the Board of Education and the Empire State Development Corporation to develop a master plan for the Creedmoor properties that are currently or will become surplus. The master plan was adopted and B.P. Shulman sent it to Governor Pataki over a year ago.

**Master Plan:** Among other things, the master plan, required by Executive Order, demanded any development must respect current zoning, new buildings must use the footprint of the previous building and existing natural areas must be



Schools are for Children

maintained as is. The Task Force was aware of and supported a school proposal as part of the master plan. However, that plan included 26 acres for a three school educational park including natural areas and a high school with an environmental theme in con-

(Continued on page 2)

## Senator Padavan Inducts Officers

Unfortunately Assemblymember Barbara Clark was unable to do the induction in January because she came down with the flu. We will reschedule Barbara soon.

Senator Padavan has been scheduled for the

March meeting and will preside over the induction of Richard Hellenbrecht (Pres.), Pat Pearson (Vice Pres.), John Reh (Treas.) and Directors: James Delaney, Neal Beekman and Vincent Kuhner.

We welcome Senator

Padavan—always a good friend of Bellerose. We would like to seek Frank's help with sprucing up Jamaica Avenue, working on the Creedmoor school issue, getting a bigger Library and solving the illegal conversion problem.



(Continued from page 1)

cert with Alley Pond Environmental Center.

**Education Site:** The original 26 acres is located on Commonwealth Boulevard between Union Turnpike and the Grand Central Parkway. Includes 2 older, currently active buildings and a newer building that includes a swimming pool, theater, bowling alley and classrooms.

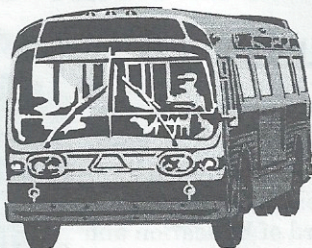
**The Proposal:** Unlike the proposal supported by our local civics, the current plan proffered by the Board of Education and supported by the Borough President places the same three schools on the northerly 10 acres near the Grand Central.

The schools include a grammar school from kindergarten to fifth grade for our district (CSD26), an intermediate school (sixth grade

through ninth) for CSD29 (Queens Village to JFK Airport) and a high school for borough-wide students geared toward future teachers.

**Educational Objections:** Three schools would take up every inch of the 10 acre parcel, with no room for any playground or athletic space. Schools are governed by three different jurisdictions making coordination and accountability almost impossible. Children of vastly different ages would enter and exit through the same area, creating potential of fights, negative influences and available of drugs for

young children. Intermediate school children would have to change buses and take a very long trip. CSD29 students would be deprived of participating in extracurricular activities due to the trip. Parents from CSD29 are vehemently opposed to this as well.



**Community Objections:** Buses may be diverted through residential streets like Commonwealth Blvd. in our area. Beautiful trees and natural areas on the property would be destroyed. Intermediate school children from Glen Oaks and Bellerose, within walking distance, would be zoned to other, more distant schools. Increased traffic and congestion with teacher and student parking and drop-offs.

**The Rally:** We need a very good turnout at the rally on March 26 at Martin Van Buren. It is outrageous that some political objectives may cause such a bad plan to go forward. Be there! Even if you don't want to give testimony, your presence counts greatly.

## BCCA Feedback Form

March 2000

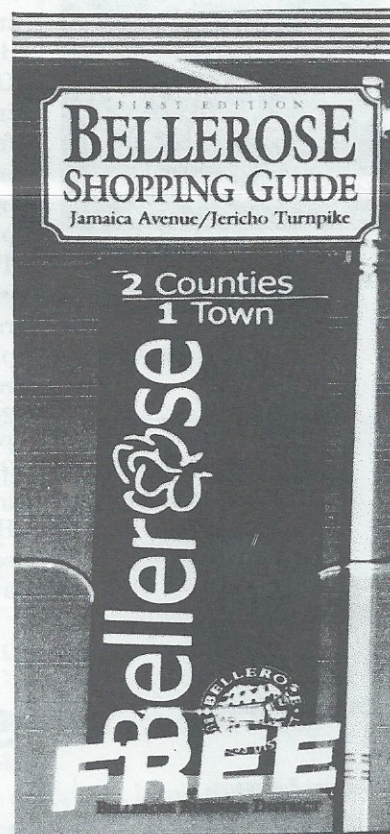
To the B.C.C.A.:

I suggest the following article for action news, issue to pursue or general comment: \_\_\_\_\_

I suggest the following speaker topic: \_\_\_\_\_

I suggest the following newsletter topic: \_\_\_\_\_

B.C.C.A. requests that you leave your \_\_\_\_\_  
name and address \_\_\_\_\_



Business Directory Available  
Now—See story page 4.

*action news*

Address articles/items to: Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 260225  
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Richard C. Hellenbrecht, Editor

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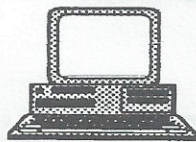
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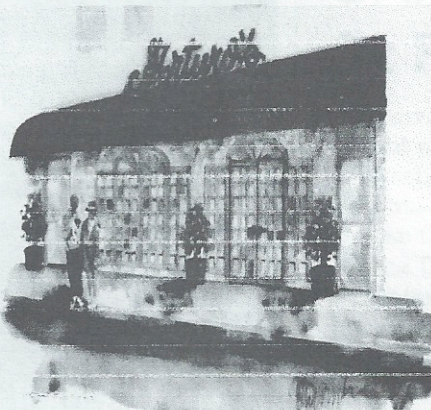
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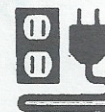
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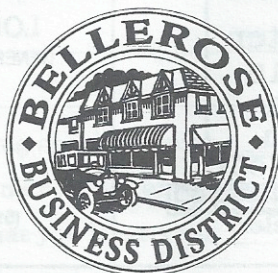
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## Business District Directory Distributed

Bellerose Business District will be introducing the first ever directory of businesses along the Jamaica Avenue/Jericho Turnpike shopping strip. The 32 page directory will be delivered to every home in Bellerose and an ample supply will be provided to every consumer business on the strip. This is the newest of the business district's efforts to improve the shopping strip and increase commerce for our many businesses.

With the directory, we hope to



remind our residents of the rich blend of businesses we have right here in Bellerose. We have everything from appliance repair to vacuum cleaners - with lots of auto-related business, real estate and restaurants in between. Since it was impossible to capture every business in a small booklet, we tried

to list all of the businesses that would likely trade with local residents and passersby and with each other. The directory lists firms together by type of business and includes fax numbers, e-mail and products sold.

Along with our very popular and successful banner program, we think that this directory will instill a sense of pride and increased hope for the future. We have several plans and the promise of new funding for many of the ideas you and the owners have for the Bellerose Business District.

We sincerely hope that this directory will encourage all of our neighbors to leave your car parked and take a walk to the strip next time you need some cheese and crackers, your electric blender repaired or some bridal party gifts.