



Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association

action news

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March 2009

Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association

March 5, 2009

8:00 pm

105th Precinct—Comm. Affairs

Holy Trinity Church

Corner Commonwealth Blvd and 87th Ave

Refreshments

April 2 Meeting—Eldercare Attorney confirmed. More next newsletter

(Note—if the weather is bad, please check www.bcca-nyc.com before coming or call 646-732-5784)

The Gavel

Well, the NYPD is finally saying that some crimes are on the rise. After several years of reduction upon reduction to the extent of disbelief, the 105 is now saying that there have been increases in burglaries in the precinct and several seem to be in our area. A burglary is generally breaking into a home or business with the intent to commit a theft or other felony or misdemeanor. The entire CompStat list of crimes by precinct are updated weekly and available on-line at www.nyc.gov/nypd. For the entire 105 precinct during the week of 2/9 to 2/15 there were 19 burglaries, up from 9 the same week in 2008 (7th week). That is a 111% increase. Grand Larceny was up 175% (from 4 to 11) and Robbery is up 125%, from 4 last year to 9 this year. That week may be extraordinary because year-to-date burglaries are up only 12% (65 vs. 58) compared to the same period last year. However, these are significant increases and it should encourage us all to be more careful in locking our doors and windows, opening doors only for people we know and being careful in public with attractive devices like cell phones and game devices. The grand larceny numbers reflect these kinds of theft. Be sure kids in your family

protect these devices and question if children show up with expensive phones or PS2s. These are often bought on the street but may be stolen devices.

Please note that even with this early 2009 bump in some of these crime statistics, CompStat shows that burglary is down 58.9% in our precinct from 1993, and GLA (auto theft) is down a whopping 91.3%. Some of us can remember when you were not sure if in the morning your car would be where you left it. If it was, would it still have all its wheels and doors?

Detective Cooper and Crime Prevention Officer Brian Wimpleberg will discuss what to watch out for and how to protect your home, family and property. You may call officer Wimpleberg anytime to schedule a visit at your home for advice on preventing theft and break-ins. We have had some very good response from the 105th Precinct and we know they are working really hard to protect us.

Please protect yourselves by keeping a light on outside and a motion detector light in the back yard. Be watchful for strangers or suspicious activity and if you think something is wrong—call 911. Do not throw computer boxes or other expensive item boxes visibly. Do not leave wallets, keys, portable GPSs, bags or anything visible in cars. Do not start and warm your car unattended.

Community News Announcements

Holy Trinity News
Holy Trinity Kids Club will be held on Wednesdays (except religious holidays of school closure days) from 5pm to 7pm, dinner included at \$3 per day. Ages K—5th grade.

Study of Rick Warren's Purpose Driven Life—Wednesdays classes at 10am and at 7:30pm. Dinner is available at 6:30pm for \$3 per person.

Mai Fest—May 2. Please contact Church for details and tickets at 718-347-0278. Saurbraten is serviced while enjoy-

ing German music, dance and beer. Dinner is \$18 per person or \$40 per family.

Holy Trinity Sunday Worship Services at 9am and 10:30am. Please join us.

Potential developments at Belmont—I mentioned last newsletter that planning is under way to put a large hotel at Belmont racetrack and to put in a Racino for video gambling. I have a final report showing several alternative designs for the area.

Tree Pruning—It seems like the tree pruning contract that was begun some months ago but ended abruptly, has been started again. You may see significant pruning operations throughout the neighborhood.

Road Repair CIP Northbound—For the next two weeks at least, the inside northbound lane of the CIP from the Grand Central to the LIE will be closed weeknights from 10pm to 5am and the second lane will be closed from 1am to 5am. Use alternate.

Hotel at Frozen Cup & New Car Wash

There is no new news on the proposed hotel at Frozen Cup on Jericho, but the "Available" sign is still up and the new owner says he'd sell at a loss if a serious buyer came forward. However, we understand that they are still doing design

drawings and permit applications.

Ultra-Sonic Car Wash

The new car wash/ice cream parlor on Jericho Turnpike officially opened for business last week. While a car wash is pretty expensive at about \$16,

the genuine hand wash and attention to detail to worth the price. You will find a large convenience store featuring car and household items while you wait for the car. And don't forget the ice cream. I think you'll go back again. I have.

Library News

Bellerose Branch Librarian Michele Chan reports:

Tax Prep for Seniors

Mondays through 4/13 1PM to 5PM—AARP counselors trained by IRS will help complete 2008 personal tax return. Bring a copy of 2007 return, and all 2008 documents.

Senator Frank Padavan

The end of a very long fight for our district's Senate seat in Albany was recently concluded with the confirmation that State Senator Frank Padavan will resume his seat in the Chamber. This fight was probably pretty close to a record in length, but we understand that throughout the contest, Frank Padavan was ahead in votes. The biggest problem is that for nearly

two months this district was without representation in the Senate.

I think we all know what Senator Padavan has meant to every corner of the district. Frank answers every letter of complaint and gets to every event. Last Saturday he was at the demonstration to keep Food Dynasty Open. He has provided a lot of funding for major improvements on Jericho Turnpike like the beautiful "retro" lampposts.

Senator Padavan has spoken at the BCCA on numerous instances and has backed us up every time we've asked for anything. While we are a non-partisan organization, we applaud the return of Senator Padavan and look forward to his help, guidance and support for as long as he is interested in representing us in Albany.

Q79

The MTA claims it is in severe fiscal crisis and has threatened not only substantial fare increases, but serious service reductions on certain train and bus lines. The Q79 bus running on Little Neck Parkway is one of the victims. Unless

MTA changes plans, the Q79 will be eliminated on Saturdays and curtailed during the week. Community Board 13 presented a resolution at our request to support retaining full service on this vital link for many of our residents, students and seniors to get to schools, shopping and doctors.