



action news

VOLUME 5 NO. 5

MAY

1978

PATRIOTISM-AREA SPIRIT THEME FOR JUNE WALK

The June Walk committee, chaired by John Reh, is working on big plans for the Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association 1978 June Walk. Our annual June Walk was started by president James Delaney and continues to be one of our best community events.

The theme is one of patriotism and community spirit. Everyone is invited to participate, and we mean everybody.

Small or big, young or old, fat or skinny, you should not miss this annual gala event.

The date is June 10th, time 2 PM and the place: 248th Street between 85th and 86th Avenues.

Pastor Schulte of the House of Hope Church was invited to give the invocation.

Mothers, please bring your babies; children bring your parents; husbands bring your wives; boys bring your girl friends.

Prizes will be awarded to the best original floats concerning our theme. There will also be prizes for the best decorated items in our parade.

Many people are puzzled as to what to wear or what to decorate. Our answer is everything -- unicycles, bicycles, tricycles, carriages, scooters, wagons, pushcarts and whatever you can imagine.

Leading the parade will be "The Stormy Knights" of Our Lady of Snows School.

On this day we ask you to display your flags. Any U.S. flag is acceptable; just make sure you display it.

Some of the prizes include tickets to games at Shea Stadium, Yankee Stadium, viewmasters, towels, paint sets, crafts and school kits and other prizes galore.

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BRIGHTER STREET LIGHTS AND FLOODLIGHTS INSTALLED TO FIGHT PARK VANDALISM

Fresh from victory to open the Bellerose Branch Library, residents got some more good news in their long fight to curb vandalism and hoodlumism on darkened Bellerose streets and its park-playground complex at P.S. 133.

After six months of pressure for more and better lighting, the City finally agreed, after a survey, that the lack of proper lighting was helping youthful hoodlums who were rampaging against public and private property in the area.

The area got a runaround for a while. Then the City promised better lighting for "some time during 1978." Then under prodding by Councilman Leffler, the date was moved up to "during the next four months."

Early on the morning of Wednesday, April 5, the promises became reality. All the old street lights on 85th Avenue and 86th Avenue and 248th and 249th Streets were converted to sodium lamps. And, a floodlight, which had been darkened at the entrance to the park, as an "economy" measure, was re-lit.

Senator Frank Padavan and Councilman Sheldon S. Leffler have worked closely with the Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association from the inception of its fight for more and better lighting to stamp out crime in the area.

On March 20, Leffler received the following letter from George A. Zandalasini, director of the Division of Public Structures of the Department of General Services:

"I am pleased to inform you that the perimeter of Public School 133, will be included in our forthcoming sodium conversion program wherein existing luminaires will be replaced by high pressure luminaires. This work should be completed during the next four months and will greatly increase the level of illumination on the exterior of these premises which should very substantially assist in security of this building and the adjoining premises.

"Your letter correctly points out that many floodlights were discon-

nected throughout the city as a result of the present fiscal crisis.

"However, due to the concerned interest shown by various sectors of this community, we have re-examined the lighting in the area of this school and the unique security problems at this location. On the basis of our investigations it has been decided that the floodlight for the comfort station area will be restored and the floodlight on 85th Avenue will also be restored to full time operation to further assist in securing these premises."

(continued on page 2)

NOTICE

THE NEXT MEETING THURSDAY

May 4, 1978

Guest Speaker:

Con Edison representative
on How to Save on Electric Bills

HOUSE OF HOPE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Corner of 248 ST. &
85th Avenue

PATRIOTISM-AREA SPIRIT THEME FOR JUNE WALK

(continued from page 1)

The parade route this year will be 248th street south to 87th Drive. East on 87th Drive to 254th Street. North on 254th Street to 85th Avenue. Then back to the P.S. 133 school yard.

All home owners who live along the parade route are asked to cooperate by parking their cars in their driveways on this day. Remember the date: June 10. (Rain date: June 17th.).

BCCA MEETING SUMMARY

The general membership meeting on April 6 took the following actions:

- Unanimously reaffirmed the membership determination to have the police crack down on hoodlums and vandals who violate the dusk curfew at P.S. 133.

- To push the Parks Department for a daily and efficient clean-up of the debris-littered P.S. 133 playground.

- Contributed \$20 to the Creedmore Farm.

- Contributed \$25 to Alley Pond Environmental Center.

- Directed officers to ask City department to remove the hump in the road on the corner of Little Neck Parkway and Jamaica Avenue.

- Voted to ask directors to approach the Office of Aging to determine why Bellerose is the only community in Queens which has no home care program for the elderly sick.

- Heard and watched a slide demonstration by Kim Estes of the Alley Pond Environmental Center on steps the group is taking to keep Alley Pond Park beautiful. The group also runs a recycling center on Saturday from 9.30 A.M. to 2.30 P.M. at 228.06 Northern Blvd., Little Neck (212|229-5314). It accepts glass, cleaned and separated by color, with metal rings removed from necks. Also metal cans, cleaned with ends removed, made of steel and aluminum. Newspapers, which are bundled and tied are desired, but glossy paper, magazines and writing paper have to be separated.

Give them a call to determine what else they can recycle.

BRIGHTER STREET LIGHTS, FLOODLIGHTS INSTALLED TO FIGHT PARK VANDALISM

(continued from page 1)

In addition, the Board of Directors of the BCCA has requested Capt. Frederick J. Kavanagh, commander of the 105th Police Precinct, to order his men to arrest, not merely give summonses, to youths who violate the posted dusk curfew of the Parks Department at the P.S. 133 park.

Parents and troublemakers should now know what to expect. They should know where their children are at night.

Those arrested will undergo "total criminal justice procedures." This means they could be kept in a police lockup overnight awaiting arraignment if they are picked up after night court closes.

The BCCA and the entire Bellerose community are hopeful that the brighter lights and tougher police stand will once and for all end the reign of terror imposed by a small band of hoodlums in the area.

ASK SANITATION DEPT. TO PLOW THROUGH STREETS

Although the temperature is in the sixties, the Bellerose Commonwealth Association is thinking S N O W.

The group wants to make sure the City and the Sanitation Department plan ahead so we don't have a repeat next Winter of snow storms that closed off many streets for days at a stretch.

The Board of Directors has written to the Sanitation Department requesting that plans be made now to plow all through streets immediately after a snow storm.

Specifically the Board asked that 249th Street, Commonwealth Boulevard, Little Neck Parkway [all going from Hillside to Jamaica Avenue] and 85th, 86th, 87th Aves., and 87th Road [all going from Little Neck Parkway to Commonwealth Parkway] be plowed after any major snowstorm to at least allow emergency vehicles or oil trucks access to Bellerose homes.

BCCA MEMBERSHIP GROWS

Membership in the Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association continues to grow.

The record membership of 654 Bellerose families which was set only last month lasted exactly two weeks.

The BCCA set another new high -- 676 paid-up families.

It's no wonder the membership is growing! The bargain rate of \$2 a year means joining a group of activists working hard to keep Bellerose safe and beautiful. It's a fighting organization dedicated to making certain the city does not forget the needs of the community -- whether it is more police, a library, more and better lighting, proper garbage pickups, street maintenance and all the other community needs.

Meetings are held at 8.30 pm the first Thursday of each month at the House of Hope Presbyterian Church, corner of 248th Street and 85th Avenue. If you are a member already, come to the meetings and let your voice be heard on how the community can be improved.

If you aren't a member, you are welcome to attend to see what you are missing. Join today -- it's only \$2 for your entire family. Just send your check made out to Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association, care of Sebastian Platania, Treasurer, at 86-21 251st Street, Bellerose 11426.

BICYCLE REGISTRATION

The Community Affairs office of the 105th Police Precinct will conduct a bicycle registration day on Saturday, May 6 in the school yard of P.S. 133 from 10 A.M. until 2 P.M. Rain date is May 13, same time, same place.

Bicycle registration is an invaluable aid in recovering and returning lost and/or stolen bicycles. We urge all bicycle owners, young and old alike, to avail themselves of this valuable service. There is no fee for the service.

Children should bring their bicycles and proof of purchase or a parent with identification.

Adults should bring their bicycles and proof of purchase or identification. Since every bicycle owner in our community is invited, please share this notice with your friends and neighbors.

LET'S HEAR FROM YOU!

The directors of the Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association and the editor of Action News want to hear from you.

If you have any special problem, maybe we can help. If you have some ideas on how to improve the community, maybe you can help us.

Keeping it to yourself does no good. We are a mutual aid society, so let's hear from you. We'll print your letters, ideas problems in our paper for the entire community to participate.

If there's something that needs to be followed up with community boards, school boards, city departments, our local elected representatives, police, etc., don't be bashful. Come forward. That's the only way our community can be improved and individual problems, or group problems solved -- by united community action -- through your BCCA.

Letters to the editor can be sent to:

Jack Lotto, Action News, 85-11 249 Street, Bellerose, N.Y. 11426, or Jim Delaney, president, BCCA, at 84-20 252nd Street, Bellerose, N.Y. 11426.

We also want news of your various civic and social groups in the area. You may want more of your neighbors to participate with you. They can't if they don't know about it.

Your children may have won some special school or girl scout award. Be proud. Let the world around you know via Action News.

LIBRARY SETS ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The Bellerose branch Library has started two new programs for adults, according to Ms. Jean Dickerson, the branch Librarian.

One will be an "Adult Book Discussion Group" to be held on the fourth Wednesday of each month, at 2.30 P.M. The first meeting was scheduled for April 26th, and the book for discussion was "Rich Man, Poor Man."

The other program will be "Beginning Needlepoint." There will be five sessions starting April 12 and running through May 10th. These will be held on Wednesdays at 10.30 A.M.

NEIGHBORS CAN HELP PROTECT YOUR HOME

Crime prevention officers of the community council of the 105th Police Precinct offered some good advice on how "knowing your Neighbor" can protect you against many forms of crime.

Here are some tips to keep in mind:

- Your neighbor can be the eyes and ears of protection for you and your home whether you are at home or away.

- Get to know your neighbor. Ring his or her bell. Introduce yourself if you are strangers. Get to know him or her and let them know you.

- Get to know all the people living in your building, if only by sight, if you live in an apartment. This way, you will know the minute a stranger enters the building, and you will be alerted.

- Form organizations within your block or building. Let all your neighbors help in making your community a safer place to live.

- If you hear a strange noise, the breaking of glass, a hammering sound where the occupants are normally out, call the police at once.

- suspicious persons ringing doorbells or listening at doors? Call police immediately.

- If you plan to be away for a few days, let a trusted neighbor know. He can watch with special attention while you are away.

THINKING OF ENTERTAINMENT?

This is the season of the doldrums and without a doubt, we have all seen quite enough snow to last us for a long time. I for one am ready to retire my shovel and sit back and enjoy an evening at the Theatre.

You may be surprised to learn that Flushing Meadows Park houses the Queens Festival Theater. Here at the former World's Fair grounds you will find a sign directing you to the "Queens Playhouse" located between the New York City Building and the Unisphere. Presentations scheduled for the coming weeks are:

A Midsummer Nights Dream - May 13- June 4

The Prisoner of Second Avenue - June 17 - July 2

For further information call 699-1660

STUDY LITTLE NECK PKWAY - 86TH AVENUE INTERSECTION

Eli Duchin, Senior Control Inspector for the Department of Traffic, recently visited the intersection at 86th Avenue and Little Neck Parkway with Community Board 13 District Manager Rosemarri Celestino and BCCA president James Delaney. The intersection has been the site of several accidents.

The "keep right" sign at the edge of the traffic median has been knocked down by northbound vehicles on numerous occasions.

The problem is due to the curve of Little Neck Parkway at the intersection and the alignment of the traffic median.

Duchin has recommended that a sign warning of the curve and a speed limit sign be installed south of the intersection to warn motorists. He has also recommended that 45 feet of the center median north of the intersection on Little Neck Parkway be removed and replaced with painted lines.

Mrs. Celestino has followed through with a formal request for the corrective action.

BELLEROSE FARMHOUSE SITE OF COLONIAL WAR "BATTLE"

Bellerose became a "battleground" on April 15-16th.

The Cornell Farm on Little Neck Parkway (near 73rd Avenue) became the scene for the re-enactment of a Revolutionary War battle.

It was a first for Eastern Queens. The Farm swarmed with "troops" of the British and American forces, holed up in 18th century-style encampments. One was in front of the farmhouse, and another in the orchard.

The British set up headquarters in the farmhouse and came under siege.

When they were not being attacked, the farmhouse was open to visitors, who swarmed in from all sections of Bellerose and other areas of Queens.

The camps were also open for viewing, when the "battles" were not in progress.

Our soldiers were fully dressed in authentic costumes, carried authentic style muskets, and dragged real cannon across the battlefields.

While no bullets were used, the farm did look and sound like a real war.

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KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

May is kindergarden registration
month for boys and girls born in
1973.

Felix Berman, P.S. 133 principal,
said parents should bring children to
the school between the hours of 9.30
A.M. and 11.30 A.M., along with
birth certificate and evidence of
immunization.

Child Born:
January
Feb. and March
April & May
June
July
August
Sept. & Oct.
Nov. & Dec.

Register on:
Monday, May 1
Tuesday, May 2
Wednesday, May 3
Thursday, May 4
Friday, May 5
Monday, May 8
Tuesday, May 9
Wednesday, May 10

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bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.



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