

bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.

action news



Volume 15 No. 5

May, 1989

**A Representative of the
Environmental
Conservation Department
will discuss
Conservation and
Drought Restrictions
May 4 at 8:00 PM
House of Hope Church**

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

President's Gavel

By: Jean Biancaniello

Now we are approaching Spring and the flowers are blooming, the trees are budding and the grass is growing.

As residents of the Bellerose community we should have pride in our property. Please keep your grass manicured and the walks clean.

Our School Board Elections are May 2, 1989. Whether or not you have a child in the school system please get involved. The PTA and the BCCA ask all of you to take an interest in the children of District 26. We are looking forward to working with the School Board members.

Have you noticed the new traffic light on 86th Avenue and 249th Street? If you have not, we are reminding you that it is there and should be working shortly.

Meetings

By: Richard Hellenbrecht

The April meeting was a joint meeting with the PS133 PTA to meet our nominees for the Community School Board. We had a disappointingly small turnout, even given the rainy weather. We had 15 of the 16 candidates present at the meeting and ample time to question the candidates on the knowledge, principles and experience they would bring to this important

board. As indicated elsewhere in this newsletter, we hope all of you will go out and vote on May 2. This election is unusual in that only one incumbent is running for re-election.

At the May 4th meeting, we expect a representative of the Department of Environmental Conservation to speak to us about drought restrictions. Time permitting, we will also ask our own Bernie Wechsler, who will brief us on his methods of capturing

rainwater for use in his garden and lawn.

On June 1, we are looking forward to a representative from the NYC fire department. Please mark your calendars so you can come down and learn about fire prevention and safety, alarms, escape and evacuation routes, etc.

**Important:
Please complete and
return the enclosed
nonsolicitation card.**

The Bellerose Plan

By: Rich Hellenbrecht

The plan for the rezoning of Bellerose was finally presented to the Community Board and members of the community at a public hearing this Monday. The plan calls for down zoning a large part of the area south of 88th Avenue (not BCCA immediate area) from R4 to a new zoning

type, R3A. R3A provides only for detached one and two family houses on plot as narrow as 25 ft.

There was substantial and vocal opposition to the plan because a large part of the area between Commonwealth Boulevard and the Cross Island Parkway would remain R4 due to existing houses there which would not meet the new R3A zoning. Also, two sections along Brad-dock Avenue are proposed to be

up zoned from R3-2 to R4 to legalize existing buildings there.

Another public hearing is scheduled for a meeting of Community Board 13 on May 22 at Queens Reformed Church at Jamaica Avenue and Springfield Blvd. An additional public hearing will be scheduled in the Bellerose Area immediately thereafter. I will try to have a date and location for you at our May 4 meeting.

Bellerose Park Cleanup

By: Eileen Damore

The Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association, in conjunction with the Parks and Sanitation Departments, is coordinating a clean-up of the Bellerose Playground on Saturday, May 20 beginning at 10 AM. We

will have paint and brushes for sprucing up the benches and playground equipment. There will be annuals for planting within and around the park. There will be rakes, shovels, brooms, trash-bags and other equipment available (please bring your own gloves.)

Won't you please come down and volunteer to join in?

We hope to see last year's volunteers, (BCCA members, the Cody's, Buckley's, Harley's, Swiatocha's, Urquiola's) and we'll need a lot more volunteers if we expect to accomplish all that we need to do. All suggestions, contributions and ideas are welcome.

The BCCA will provide soda, balloons and other incentives. Please join us.

Block Captains

By: Jean Biancaniello
84-21 249th Street

We are in dire need of block captains for several blocks in our community. You ask, what is a block captain? Once a month the BCCA will forward a post card asking you to pick up the Action News. This newsletter gets placed in each door on the blocks assigned. While delivering you get some exercise and a chance to chat with your neighbors. Once a year we ask for your assistance in collecting the annual dues from your block.

So, are you interested? We have 22 blocks from which you may choose.

Please contact me, your help will be appreciated.

Con Games

By: Rich Hellenbrecht

This is the time of the year during which numerous con artists come around preying on unsuspecting homeowners to make minor repairs to houses, garages and grounds. Roofs are a major target of these thieves.

Senior citizens are primary targets. Please protect yourselves by getting recommendations on home improvement contractors. *Never* hire a contractor who stops you on the sidewalk or knocks on your door. *Never* pay cash for contractor work, even if it is completed. If you are suspicious of a solicitor, get his business card and check with the better business bureau. No home owner problem is so serious that you

should hire someone off the street. Take your time, ask your friends and neighbors and be careful.

Bike Registration

By: Eileen Damore

There will be a bike registration at the Bellerose Park on May 20 as part of our clean-up program. This will enable bike owners to permanently mark their bikes with NYC Police Department identification. In the event of a theft, the registered bike may be identified and returned to its owner. The identification equipment will be available from 10 AM to 1 PM so please mark your calendars to be at the Park on May 20, to meet your neighbors, contribute an hour or so to the beauty of Bellerose and have some clean-up fun!

The Fall of the Non-Solicitation Ban

by: Richard C. Hellenbrecht

In the early '70s block busting was a real problem that threatened the strength and stability of many neighborhoods in eastern Queens. A few disreputable real estate agents had been known to use scare tactics, door-to-door solicitations, advertisements and other methods to entice people to sell their homes at very low prices. In many areas of the City houses became vacant and were boarded up when new buyers couldn't

meet their obligations and abandoned the properties.

In order to avert this problem in eastern Queens, the New York State Secretary of State issued an executive order banning such solicitations for almost all of Community Board 13 and other similar areas throughout the state. This order made it illegal for any real estate broker or agent to solicit for the sale of any house that was not otherwise up for sale. The Secretary of State, our State Senator and local civics were successful in stopping many actions in violation of the order and several agencies were fined

and issued cease and desist orders. The non-solicitation ban was very successful in protecting our community and many other areas throughout the State.

This year a challenge in the State courts has overturned this order. While appeals are in process, the ban on solicitation is no longer in effect.

State law does provide a way you can protect yourself for such actions and we urge all of you to complete and mail the below form to

Community Board 13Q
219-41 Jamaica Avenue
Queens Village, NY
11428



Secretary of State
State of New York

I (we) the undersigned owner(s) of property located at _____

_____ County of _____, are not desirous of selling such property and hereby revoke my (our) implied invitation to solicit for the sale or purchase of such property in any manner whatsoever and do not wish to receive any communication of whatever nature relating to such sale or purchase from any real estate broker or salesperson.

I (we) hereby request you, by virtue of the power vested in you as Secretary of State, pursuant to Article 12A of the Real Property Law, to issue a Cease and Desist Order to all licensed brokers and salespersons from solicitation of the undersigned, until such time as I (we) notify you to the contrary in writing.

Zip Code _____

Signed: _____

Dated: _____

Print name(s) _____

NOTE: Completion of this form and the issuance of a Cease and Desist Order do not prevent an owner from selling or listing his home for sale with a real estate broker.

R113-015 (7/79)

Bellerose Library News

ADULT PROGRAMS

Book Discussions: Thursday, May 18 at 10:30 AM Fatal Shore by Robert Hughes is "a riveting, brilliantly written account of the birth of Australia out of the suffering and brutality of England's infamous convict transportation system."

Once-a-month Book Sale: Monday, May 22nd from 1 to 7:30 PM. Adult, Young Adult and Juvenile hardcover and paperbacks available.

Camera Club: Meets Saturday May 6th and 20th from 10 AM to 1 PM.

Older Adults Program:

1. "Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act of 1988" will be presented Wednesday, May 10 at 2 PM by Ms. Dorothy Timber, Field

Representative of the Social Security Administration.

2. "Safety and Security for Older New Yorkers" on Wednesday, May 17 at 2 PM by Police Officer Edward Conroy of the New York Police Department Crime Division.

YOUNG ADULT PROGRAMS
Chess Club meets Thursday nights May 4, 11, 18 and 25 from 6 to 8 PM. Players of all ages and abilities are welcome. No entry fee. Round Robin and Swiss-Quads are available. Bring your own clock and board/pieces. New members must play in the round robin first. For information call: Mike Fricano, Monday to Friday 8 to 10 PM at 718-224-8004.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Picture Book Hours: 3 1/2 to 5 year olds, Tuesdays, May 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 at 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM. Pre-registration required.

Toddlers Fun Time: for 2 - 3 year olds, Wednesdays, May 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 at 10:30 AM. Pre-registration is required.

Arts & Crafts: For school-age children will be Friday May 19 at 3:30 PM. Pre-registration required.

The BCCA joins with the Library staff in asking members of the community to keep their Library attractive and free of graffiti and other forms of vandalism. Please show support for your Library by reporting unusual activities, especially when the Library is closed.

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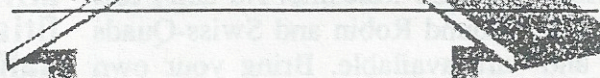
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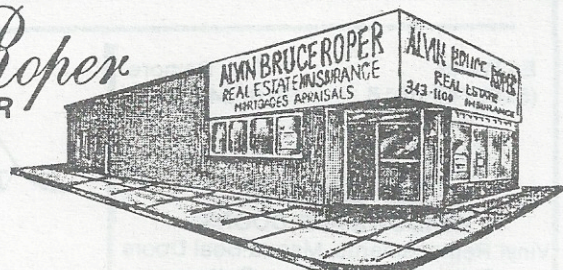
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