

bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.

action news



Volume 22 No. 5

MAY 1997

President's Gavel

By: Richard M. Brown

What is the B.C.C.A.?

The Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association is an association of homeowners joined together to help improve and preserve our community. The boundaries of the B.C.C.A. are on the north Hillside Avenue, on the south 87th Drive, on the west the Cross Island Parkway, and on the east Little Neck Parkway. We conduct monthly meetings on the first Thursday of the month at

8 P.M. in the House of Hope Church located at 248th Street and 85th Avenue.

These monthly meetings are your forum to discuss issues of concern to you about the neighborhood. We also get a monthly update from our local C.P.O.P. officer from the 105th Precinct. This report will generally alert you to situations to be aware of and how to best protect yourself from them. You are also asked to bring to their attention any condition that is of

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Important information inside on:

*Prevent Auto Theft Day
Annual Park Clean-up Day
Picnic for Mike
Our AAA Speaker
Other Important Events*

Correction:

In the April Action News we erroneously identified "the Rouke family (owners of New Hyde Park Inn)" as owners of the former Exxon Station. We have been notified that this is incorrect and we retract this error with a sincere apology.

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

Use our clip out coupon inside

**Automobile Club
of New York
discusses new State
vehicle inspection
May 1, 1997
8:00 PM
House of Hope
Church**

Cor. 248th St. & 85th Ave.

Bellerose Commonwealth
Civic Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 260225
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Pres from page 1

concern to you. Since we can't be everywhere it is important that you come to the meetings to alert us to problems.

Generally we will also have a guest speaker from various government agencies or corporations to address issues of concern. At our March meeting we were fortunate to have our Councilman, Sheldon Leffler. Mr. Leffler is our representative to city government for this area as such he was able to address questions concerning various city services to this community. We were able to bring to his attention the condition of our roads, sidewalks, and trees as a result of this meeting. Our monthly meetings give you one of the few opportunities to interact personally with these officials.

Members of the B.C.C.A. are also our representatives to the following organizations: 105th Precinct Community Council, Community Board 13, Queens Borough President's Zoning Task Force, Joint Bellerose Business District Development Corporation, Eastern Queens Civic Council and the Federation of Civic Councils of the Borough of Queens. By attending these monthly meetings we are able to address areas of concern to our community and we are asked for support when necessary.

Through these meetings we are able to find out issues that will be affecting the community. Recently at a Community Board 13 meeting we learned of the proposed EMS building on Hillside Avenue, which the

community has since endorsed and we persuaded the Fire Department to pursue the site.

The BCCA currently supports its operations through annual dues of \$5 per household, which is one of the lowest dues of a Civic Association in Queens. These dues help pay for our stationary, postage, newsletters, and annual events (holiday decoration prizes, citizenship awards, community cleanups, essay contests). Once the B.C.C.A. is informed of a problem letters and calls are sent to all the proper agencies to help address the situation. Also since the majority of the 1200 homeowners in our area are unable to attend the monthly meeting the Action News is our only form of communications to them.

While we have been fortunate recently not to have major issues to address, an active civic association stands ready to do battle for community preservation. For example, in the past the association rallied to prevent City buses from using Commonwealth Blvd., fought rezoning of our School District, and vigorously pursued the reconstruction of Little Neck Parkway at Jamaica Avenue and all of Commonwealth Blvd.

Currently we are trying to get the city to correct the sinking road beds, poor sidewalks, lack of curbs, dead trees and tree stumps in the area. We are also circulating a petition to inform the city of our support of the N.Y.P.D.'s Community Patrol Officer Program. Please help

show our support for local police coverage by signing this petition. Everyone that helps organize and run this organization is a volunteer spending many hours of their own time to help preserve our community. Please help us by showing your support of our efforts in any way you can, by participating in neighborhood clean-ups, etc. and especially by attending BCCA meetings and speaking up. This organization writes letters on every issue that is brought to our attention. Unfortunately many times more than one letter is required to get action from the city. Please let our elected officials know how you feel by writing directly to them or calling their offices. They are the only ones that can change the way this city operates. Please let us know of any issues you would like us to address.

Don't Forget

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 11, 1997

House of Hope

The House of Hope
Presbyterian Church
248th Street and 85th Ave.
David F. Schult, Minister
84-54 248th Street
Tel.: 718 347-3120

Sunday:

9:30 AM Church School
11:00 Morning Worship
A Nursery is Available

The Rummage Sale date has been changed to May 17th, between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm. Refreshments will be served!

Five civic associations host the 1997 Prevent Auto Theft Day at St. Gregory's R.C. Church

Bellerose Commonwealth

North Bellerose

Queens Colony

105 PRECINCT

Floral Park

Queens-

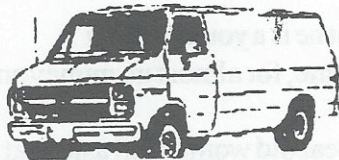
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PRECINCT CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER AT 776-9207**

Bellerose Park Cleanup

**May 10, 1997
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

**Meet at the Bellerose Playground
behind P.S. 133 at 9:00 AM**

**Bring gloves and rakes
BCCA will supply plastic bags.
We hope to clean up the playground,
the triangle and Little Neck Parkway Mall**

Please come and help out - Bring a friend!

Picnic for Mike

We don't all know Mike Durnell, he's not a Bellerose resident, but he is a young fellow in need of help through no fault of his own. Here is a way to have a good time, for almost no money and lend a helping hand.

In brief, Mike was riding a borrowed motorcycle in California when an 83 year old woman fell asleep at the wheel and hit him, resulting in completely severing one arm, eventually causing the loss of one leg and numerous serious on-going medical problems. The woman who hit him was woefully underinsured and has no money or assets. This leaves Mike with uncovered hospital bills and a lifetime of prosthetic arms and legs which will cost at least \$30,000 each.

**The family and friends of Mike invite you to a Town Picnic for Mike
featuring Games, Crafts, Raffles and Fun**

**May 31, 1997 from 10 AM to 5 PM
(Rain date June 1)
at Alley Pond Park
Springfield Blvd. and 76th Avenue (then follow the signs)**

Bring your lunch and dessert for a wonderful day.

Admission is only \$2.00 per person. All funds raised will help buy an arm and a leg.

For information, call Denise Christiansen (Mike's Aunt at (718)465-0005)

Please come and help out - Bring a friend!

Vehicle Inspections

by: R. C. Hellenbrecht

This month's speaker is Al Tetta from the New York Automobile Association (AAA). Al is a retired police officer and an expert in driving safety. Al will talk about driving safety, seat belts and air bags, etc. We hope Al will also be able to discuss the the High Enhanced Emissions Inspection Program which the New York City metropolitan area will be subject to effective November 15, 1997 as a result of the Federal Clean Air Act.

Following is a summary from materials provided by the AAA. For the next seven years, most gas powered vehicles in our area will be required to undergo more rigorous annual emissions inspection using sophisticated new testing equipment.

Participating service stations must purchase equipment estimated at more than 45,000 and pay annual maintenance of at least \$4,000. For the motorist, the new inspection will cost \$25 plus the \$10 safety inspection.

A major question is how many

The use of a dynamometer requires highly trained technicians to operate this test, which is sup-

posed to better simulate conditions of a car under a real driving load. But there is little real data to prove the effectiveness of this test.

Questions include: repeated testing on the same vehicle often has differing results, motorists may be required to drive long distances for the test and the test process is relatively lengthy, repairs may be costly, and only downstate motorists will bear this additional cost.



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B.C.C.A. Feedback Form

May 1997

To the B.C.C.A.

I suggest the following article for Action News, or issue to pursue, or general comment: _____

I suggest the following speaker topic: _____

I suggest the following newsletter topic: _____

We encourage you to leave your name and address: _____

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Address items to:

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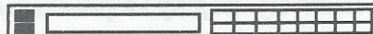
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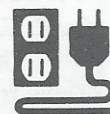
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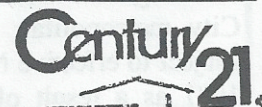


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