



action news

Volume 27, Issue 5

May 2001

Special Meeting

Borough President And Council Candidates Night

May 15, 2001

7:30 pm

Bellerose Jewish Center
254th Street and Union Tpk

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

2001 Dues are now due
Block Captains are requested to bring dues and lists to John Reh ASAP
248-13 87th Ave.

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Note—No May 3rd Meeting

Note

There will be no meeting at House of Hope in May. Please join us at the May 15th candidates forum.

**Next Regular meeting
June 7 at House of
Hope. Church**

**Block Captain
Recognition**

**Special Date for
September Meeting**

Due to the QCC Mayor Debate on Sept. 6, the BCCA meeting will be held on September 13.

Candidates Nights

This is an extremely important election year for most of the towns in Queens, especially Bellerose. We have worked hard coordinating with other civic groups to bring you several opportunities to see and hear the candidates. It is most important that you get to one of these events and ask questions of the candidates.

For the first time in many years we will elect a new city councilman for our district. Sheldon Leffler has been a familiar face and an old friend to this organization, but due to term limits he must move on. Also, the Borough President spot is open and there are many candidates seeking this critical position—Sheldon among them. And most importantly, the Mayor position is open. While there has been a lot of publicity you haven't seen a focus on Queens yet.

For that reason, we have arranged these five opportunities to meet the candidates. Don't wait until the last minute, start right away.

May 15—Council and Borough President - The candidates for Sheldon Leffler's City Council seat will talk between 7:30 and 8:45 pm. Borough President candidates between 8:45 and 10 pm. These will be at Bellerose Jewish Center 254th and Union Tpk. Sponsored by all

local civics. *It is very important you get there.*

May 21—Borough President Debate - This event is sponsored by the Queens Civic Congress and the League of Women Voters at York College, 94-95 Guy Brewer Blvd starting at 7:30 pm. This is an actual debate format featuring senior correspondents of the NY Times, Daily News and Newsday.

June 19—Mayoral Candidates - Candidates for Mayor face off at the Bellerose Jewish Center, 254th Street and Union Tpk at 7:30 pm. Sponsored by all local civics.

September 6—Mayoral Debate - QCC and League of Women Voters will sponsor a debate of mayoral candidates with panelists from major papers' editorial boards. It will be broadcast on WPIX. This is only five days before the primaries and should be pivotal to the results. Time and place to be announced.

Final Mayoral Debate - QCC will sponsor the final Republican and Democratic candidates in debate shortly before Election Day. Time and place to be announced.

There is no more important obligation associated with U. S. citizenship than to be a knowledgeable voter. Your civics are offering you an opportunity to hear and ask questions of our candidates.

Garbage Collections

By: Richard Hellenbrecht

One of the minor conveniences of today is plastic garbage bags. I remember the old days of carrying out the garbage in paper bags and the bottom would invariably fall out of the bag and the garbage landed on the floor—what a mess. But we cleaned up the mess and it ended up in a nice, secure garbage can.

I sometimes hate to drive around the neighborhood on the morning garbage is picked up. That's because too many people put the garbage out at the curb in the plastic bag. Unfortunately dogs, cats and raccoons can easily get through the plastic and we end up with a street full of chicken bones and papers.

I would like to ask that all Bellerose residents go out and get a good, old fashioned metal or plastic garbage can with a tight fitting lid—and use them regularly. The animals are

smart enough to discern between garbage and recycling, so I am not necessarily calling for all recycling to go out in garbage cans.

When I mentioned using garbage cans at the last BCCA meeting, everyone seemed to agree and our District Manager Sally Martino-Fisher reminded us that it's the law to use cans for garbage, but it is rarely enforced.

I hope that in a few weeks we see many more garbage cans and a big difference in the amount of garbage strewn around the streets.

If we make any progress, I'd be happy to talk to Sanitation brass to try to get the sanitation men to be more careful in returning garbage cans near where they picked it up and reuniting the cans and tops when they finished their chore.

Please think about it, then go buy a new can.

Library Patrons

While we're talking about great conveniences, I'm pleased to say that the Bellerose Library is a wonderful resource for our community and we're all proud to see lots of kids and adults crowd into the Library days and evenings and even Saturdays.

As you recall I reported last year that the BCCA wrote to the Queensborough Public Library to request an expansion of the Library. They replied that due to its relatively recent construction it is in their capital plan for expansion in the year 2028! That's horrible and we hope to shave a few years off this plan, but we'll need help from all our local civics, churches, schools and PTAs.

We have received complaints, however, from residents of 250th Street that library patrons are parking their cars regularly in the driveways of those homes, seriously inconveniencing homeowners. While I suspect that many of these parkers may be from outside the BCCA area, I would like to remind all of our readers to please park in only appropriate spots when you go to the Bellerose Library.

Correction

I regret that in my last month's article on newsletter delivery kids I neglected to mention that the four youths I mentioned are joined by a young lady who has volunteered to be a block captain. As a teenager, Julia Devi Subrian is the youngest block captain in our history. The four youngsters delivering 150 or so newsletters each are paid for their efforts. Block captains like Julia are not paid. Thank you Julia and sorry I left you out.

BCCA Feedback Form

May 2001

To the B.C.C.A.:

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

☐ Enclosed is my \$5 Dues payment for 2001 or a donation

I suggest the following speaker topic: _____

I suggest the following newsletter topic: _____

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

Address articles/items to: Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 260225
Bellerose, NY 11426

action news

Attn: Richard C. Hellenbrecht, Editor

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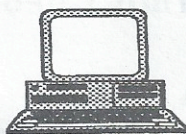
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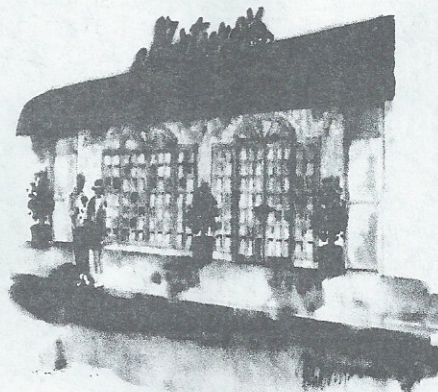
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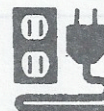
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Vin Etching—May 19

By: James K. Delaney

On Saturday, May 19th, between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., the 105th Precinct will provide free VIN etching at the Gregorian Hall parking lot, at 88th Avenue and the Cross Island Parkway northbound service road, across from St. Gregory's convent.

This involves the use of a small stencil to inconspicuously mark your car's Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on your car windows. Crime prevention specialist Don Barto of the 105 Precinct indicates that this discourages car theft and can reduce your insurance premiums.

St. Gregory's has co-sponsored this service to the community several times. The actual VIN etching is done by officers and

auxiliary police from the 105 Precinct. Volunteers from the BCCA will also be helping out as they have in the past.

Other Stuff

Exxon Station

You all remember the old Exxon station at Hillside and Little Neck Parkway. A flurry of activity lead us to check. Apparently a permit was issued for a new building for an "eating and drinking establishment." It's better than an empty lot.

Raj Station

The auto repair station at 249th Street and Jamaica Avenue has applied to change to an auto repair and used car lot. This is the comment period. Any comments please call 343-5397.

Boats & Trucks

By: Rich Hellenbrecht

A Bellerose resident complained that a Buildings inspector threatened a citation for a trailered boat and his commercial van parked over night on his driveway. We checked it out and indeed, it is unlawful to park either a boat or a truck on your property, even overnight or you will be subject to a large fine that could be assessed daily.

Those of you who regularly park either should make other arrangements for your property or face a large fine.

Articles Welcome

I welcome articles either for our website or for Action News. If you have any suggestions, please email me at rch.brecht@verizon.net